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Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly

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I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 67/297, the General Assembly decided to establish, at its sixty-eighth session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

2. In that resolution, the General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly (A/67/936), and, as a result, to continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the Assembly's sixty-eighth session. The present report and the recommendations contained herein are submitted pursuant to the provisions of that resolution.

3. During the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, the President of the Assembly appointed Ambassador František Ružička, the Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations, and Ambassador Norachit Sinhaseni, the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations, as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

4. Before the formal beginning of the Working Group's deliberations, the Co-Chairs conducted informal bilateral meetings with representatives of various Member States and a variety of political groups. During those meetings, the Co-Chairs benefited extensively from the insights and ideas of Member States on both the substance and the technical and procedural aspects of the revitalization process.

II. Proceedings

5. The Working Group held six meetings, on 4 March, 21 March, 4 April, 2 May, 16 May and 17 July 2014.

6. The programme of work was organized in two practical stages, as follows: general discussion and exchange of views; and thematic meetings. The themes identified by the Co-Chairs for consideration in the four thematic meetings comprised:

(a) The role and authority of the General Assembly;

(b) The working methods of the Assembly;

(c) The selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system;

(d) The strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

A. General discussion

7. The first meeting of the Working Group was convened by its Co-Chairs on the afternoon of 4 March. Following introductory remarks by the Co-Chairs, the participants in the meeting heard from the President of the General Assembly, the Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and 15 delegations.

8. The President of the General Assembly began by noting that considerable attention had been paid, during the most recent general debate, on United Nations reform and that an organization that did not reform itself was at risk of becoming irrelevant. Thus, the Working Group's deliberations could not be a matter of routine. In particular, he drew the attention of the Working Group to two pertinent issues. The first was the presentation by the Secretary-General of the Organization's biennial budget at the first meeting of the Fifth Committee in the relevant session, rather than some weeks later, as was currently the practice. The second was the election of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and of the members of the Economic and Social Council earlier in the year, perhaps in June instead of in October. The President of the General Assembly said that, when the Assembly had faced deadlocks, he had tried to provide decisive leadership to advance processes, for example in the elections of the Chairs of the Main Committees. He also underscored his ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the Assembly and other bodies. Noting that the Assembly had been tasked with finalizing a shared sustainable development agenda, he mentioned both the thematic debates and high-level events that had been held during the sixty-eighth session on such an agenda and mandated processes such as the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals and the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

9. Emphasizing the Working Group's cross-cutting agenda, the Co-Chairs underscored that, to achieve expected and much-needed results, it needed an open, fair and intensive exchange of views. They also underscored that some encouraging trends had emerged from the informal discussions that they had had. Many delegations had indicated that they were in favour, for instance, of holding the elections of Security Council and Economic and Social Council members earlier in the year and of establishing a new pattern of rotation for the election of Main Committee Chairs. The Co-Chairs said they had come with no set agenda of their own; they were committed to considering fully the concerns and views of Member States and pledged to work with Member States to revitalize and reinvigorate the General Assembly.

10. The Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division, pointing to the long history of the issue of and item on revitalization, underscored a number of tangible outcomes. Then, turning to the Working Group's mandates for the current session, he mentioned several tasks, including the following: continued examination of the working methods of the Main Committees; exploration of the possibility of holding the annual elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council earlier than in October; arrangements concerning the election of Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly; and consideration of both a report by the President of the General Assembly on his role,

mandate and activities and a report by the Secretary-General on the sources of funding and staffing of the Office of the President. He also noted that, in its most recent resolution on revitalization (67/297), the Assembly had requested the Secretariat, in coordination with the Office of the President of the Assembly, to explore the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of past Presidents, from within existing resources, which could serve to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office. In closing, the Director flagged two recent tangible outcomes of the Working Group's labours: the establishment, from within existing resources, of a link on the Assembly's website devoted to the revitalization of the Assembly and the issuance of the report of the Secretary-General informing the Assembly that all provisions of the resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the Assembly addressed to the Secretariat had been implemented in full (A/68/774). He assured those present that the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division, as the keeper and focal point of the institutional memory on revitalization, stood ready to provide support, input and guidance throughout the Working Group's deliberations. Fifteen delegations then took the floor, focusing principally on the Working Group's four clusters: the role and authority of the General Assembly; its working methods; the selection of the Secretary-General; and strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

11. A group of States reaffirmed the role and authority of the General Assembly (cluster 1), including in questions of peace and security, as well as the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations. The group reiterated its objection to what it perceived as the continuous encroachment of the Security Council. Another group recognized the importance of interaction between the Assembly and international or regional forums and other organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, including civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. One delegation perceived the matter of encroachment as not being limited to the Security Council, suggesting that the Economic and Social Council was also attempting to encroach on the work of the Assembly on economic and social issues. Ways needed to be found to enhance complementarity and go beyond competition — in peace and security and in sustainable development. Another Member State stressed the importance of the Assembly to small States, as it was their only voice in the United Nations. A delegation remarked how important the Syrian crisis had shown the role of the Assembly to be. Another alleged more broadly that Member States had used the Security Council to avoid holding a transparent and inclusive debate on peace and security issues, and yet another suggested that the Assembly should indeed have a complementary role when the Security Council failed to exercise its functions.

12. On the issue of the General Assembly's working methods (cluster 2), one group reiterated the call for a thorough evaluation of the status of implementation of Assembly resolutions, while acknowledging the announcements just made by the Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division. One delegation, concurring, emphasized that effective follow-up was crucial to credibility.

13. On rationalizing the agenda, one speaker recalled that Member States had been invited to offer up their own items, with no success. Success depended on individual sponsoring countries being willing to volunteer. Another delegation countered that eliminating topics should be possible only with the consent of sponsoring States. Yet another delegation encouraged the Assembly to stop adopting resolutions on obscure

and outdated subjects. A Member State stressed the importance of lightening the high-level week and limiting the number of high-level meetings. It also cautioned that attempting to change the working methods of other bodies — such as the Security Council — would be counterproductive.

14. One group focused on the election of the Chairs of the Main Committees, welcoming the rotation mechanism agreed for the following five years. Others also felt that this rotation scheme deserved the Working Group's endorsement. One group of delegates, including a former Chair of the Second Committee, identified the role of the bureaux of the Main Committees and the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council as areas for further examination. Another delegation stressed the importance of basing the elections of the Chairs of the Main Committees on equitable geographical distribution. One group stressed that any delays in those elections should be addressed in a timely manner, noting as well the necessity to streamline the current arrangements for the formation of the Committees' bureaux. One Member State, recalling the proposals it had already made on those issues, felt that the Working Group was the optimal forum for finding a predictable, long-term solution to those issues.

15. On the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system (cluster 3), one group stressed not only that the appointment should be more transparent and inclusive of all Member States and allow effective and efficient General Assembly participation, but also the importance of the full implementation of the aforementioned resolutions in the process of selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General. Another group emphasized that the Secretary-General reported to all Member States. One speaker hoped that the Working Group would move on the issue promptly, noting that the next process was still a few years away.

16. On the functions of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, including strengthening its institutional memory (cluster 4), one group highlighted the importance of ensuring the effectiveness of the Office, including increasing its budget and strengthening its institutional memory. Another group underscored the need to implement possible improvements, taking budgetary constraints into account, and one delegation underscored that support should be provided within agreed resources. Another stressed that the matter should be considered through the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

17. The Co-Chairs assured delegations that each of the four clusters would receive due attention, while noting the divergence of views and positions on them.

B. Thematic meetings

First thematic meeting: the role and authority of the General Assembly

18. In the course of the first thematic meeting, on the role and authority of the General Assembly, held on 21 March 2014, 12 delegations intervened, two of them on behalf of major groups, following opening remarks by the Co-Chairs, who reiterated their desire to move the issue and process forward on the basis of the views and positions expressed by the members.

19. Speakers generally reiterated their support for strengthening the role and authority of the General Assembly, calling as well for the full implementation of existing provisions in its relevant resolutions. While one group emphasized the relationship between the Assembly and other principal organs — and focused on what it perceived to be the continuous encroachment of the Security Council — another group highlighted the importance of increasing the efficiency, and thus the strength and effectiveness, of the Assembly's working methods.

20. One group, underlining that revitalization was a political, not merely a procedural, process, reiterated that revitalization deserved to be considered with other reform processes and important topics. Several delegations also welcomed the Co-Chairs' draft updated inventory, as well as the creation by the Secretariat of a link devoted to the revitalization of the General Assembly in accordance with resolution 67/297.

21. Reaffirming the role and authority of the Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, one group underscored the need to consult with Member States on initiatives and activities undertaken within the Organization. Along with others, it also stressed the need to implement all resolutions, including those on revitalization, fully and on a non-selective basis. A concurring delegation emphasized those adopted by consensus. Another delegation suggested that the follow-up to resolutions might include a time frame, and one Member State specifically proposed a follow-up mechanism.

22. One group remained concerned over what it perceived as the continuous encroachment of the Security Council on issues that fell under the powers and functions of the General Assembly, stressing the need for complete observance by the Council of all the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and Assembly resolutions defining and clarifying its relationship with other principal organs. One Member State stressed that the Assembly needed to respond to international challenges and noted that revitalization was ensured only when the Assembly took actions that were relevant. Another delegation suggested that the Assembly already possessed sufficient authority to become more active, but that Member States needed to take initiative. Two Member States specifically supported a greater role for the Assembly in the process of selecting the Secretary-General.

23. One delegation stressed that any such measures needed to be in accordance with the Charter and that it would resist any transfer of authority from the Security Council to the General Assembly, specifically referring to Article 12 (1) of the Charter. At the same time, that delegation shared the view that the Council had encroached upon the Assembly's agenda, stressing that the Council should focus on country-specific issues. Another Member State expressed concern about statements that the Council needed to increase its accountability to the Assembly, which, it stressed, would undermine the co-equal status of those two bodies. In that same context, one group stressed the need for complementarity among the United Nations' principal organs. Another group thought it essential for the entities of the Organization to work in unison, welcoming specifically the regular meetings of the Presidents of the principal organs. Such coordination, it underlined, should be extended to the agenda and principal organs' programme of work in order to promote coherence, complementarity and mutual respect and understanding.

24. Another group welcomed efforts to ensure increased cooperation among the Presidents of the principal organs, as well as with the Secretariat, recalling the need for the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to rationalize their agendas as called for in Assembly resolution 68/1. One Member State, citing the high-level political forum on sustainable development, specifically noted what it perceived as the encroachment of the Economic and Social Council. Another speaker, however, felt that the Council's role as the central body dealing with economic and social issues should not be weakened. One delegation stressed that revitalization was needed to restore the primacy of the United Nations in development matters.

25. Regarding the annual report of the Security Council to the Assembly, a group noted with satisfaction that the Security Council Presidents held informal meetings with all Member States on the preparation of the report and called for such meetings to be institutionalized, urging Member States' participation. The same group also urged the Council to submit a more comprehensive and analytical report to the Assembly, which, it argued, should include the views expressed by its members during the consideration of agenda items. The same group called for the submission of special subject-oriented reports in accordance with the Charter, as urged in past resolutions on revitalization.

26. Noting the work of the Special Committee on the Charter and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, one group believed that the Special Committee could contribute greatly to the whole process of revitalization and expressed support for two proposals currently under discussion by it: the creation of an open-ended working group to study the proper implementation of the Charter with respect to the functional relationship of its organs; and the working paper on strengthening the role of the Organization and enhancing its effectiveness.

27. Another group stressed that, for the General Assembly to live up to its role as a principal organ, it needed to take relevant action on issues of common concern to the international community and produce results. Specifically, the group supported the practice of convening thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community that facilitated in-depth discussion. It valued the interactive and inclusive character of such debates, which allowed for close engagement between the Assembly and other stakeholders. One Member State expressed dissatisfaction, however, at the lack of tangible outcomes from the thematic debates. Another delegation suggested distributing the high-level thematic debates more evenly throughout the year and/or establishing a second high-level week, in the spring. It also wondered how better to address the priorities identified during the general debate during the remainder of the session of the Assembly.

28. One group underscored the importance and benefit of continued interaction between the General Assembly and other international organizations, citing dialogue between the Group of 20 and the United Nations to promote a highly cooperative, multidimensional approach to globalization. Another group, which attached priority to the role, authority and relationships of the Assembly, stressed that, because the Assembly was the primary legislative body in the multilateral system, its interaction with other international organizations must be closely followed.

29. On enhancing the visibility of the work of the General Assembly, a group noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretary-General, the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference

Management, and requested them to keep taking appropriate measures to increase public awareness worldwide. Two groups commended the Secretariat for creating a link on the Assembly website dedicated to revitalization. One group observed that, despite having a cost, increasing awareness of the Assembly's work could play a useful part in strengthening the Assembly's role and expressed its support for enhanced interaction between the Assembly and civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

30. A group underscored that, in order to enhance the role and authority of the General Assembly, it was necessary to strengthen the Office of its President, including by making available the necessary resources. A Member State stressed that revitalization was not just a matter of political will but depended on such resources. In that context, one delegation reiterated its proposal for the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to report on the implementation of Assembly resolutions. The same delegation suggested that the Co-Chairs could request a study of the implementation of resolutions, and reiterated that the biennialization and triennialization of items on the Assembly's agenda needed to be subject to the consent of sponsoring States.

31. The Co-Chairs noted the concerns expressed, acknowledging in particular the suggestions made for a better distribution of high-level meetings throughout the session and for the establishment of a second high-level week in spring.

Second thematic meeting: the working methods of the General Assembly

32. The third meeting of the Working Group, which was also its second thematic meeting, was convened by the Co-Chairs on 4 April 2014. Following introductory remarks by the Co-Chairs, the meeting participants heard briefings from the Chairs of the First, Fourth, Second and Third Committees and the Vice-Chairs of the Fifth and Sixth Committees. During the interactive question-and-answer period that followed, two delegations (one representing a major group) posed questions, eliciting responses from five of the representatives of the Main Committees. In the last part of the meeting, dedicated to delegations' general statements, 12 speakers took the floor.

33. In opening the meeting, the Co-Chairs focused principally on three areas. First, they spoke of streamlining the General Assembly's agenda. They then turned to two new issues raised by the Assembly in its resolution 67/297: the possibility of electing the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council earlier than in October; and arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and the Rapporteurs of the Main Committees. With respect to the latter issue, they underscored that, in the resolution, the Assembly had invited regional groups to be guided by the arrangements mentioned in paragraph 22 of that same resolution for the election of the Chairs and the Rapporteurs of the sixty-ninth session. It was for the Working Group to come up with a new arrangement acceptable to all regional groups and Member States. In that context, the Co-Chairs reminded those present of the interim arrangement that had been proposed by the President of the Assembly and adopted as decision 68/505 on 1 October 2013. In addition, the Co-Chairs congratulated the Secretariat on developing and operationalizing the link on revitalization. With these points mentioned, they then gave the floor to the Chairs of the Main Committees.

Briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees

34. The Chair of the First Committee underlined the three distinct components of its work: the general debate, the thematic discussion and action on the draft resolutions and decisions. Time limits and the degree of adherence to them were also mentioned. The question of whether longer statements could and should be reflected in verbatim records had arisen, but it had ultimately been decided that the Committee should maintain its current practice of creating verbatim records reflecting only what was actually said. Within thematic discussions, panel discussions were also held, with the participation of independent experts, but the Chair noted that concerns had been raised regarding their length and composition and the perceived lack of interactive exchange. The Office of Disarmament Affairs had thus been requested to re-examine how better to plan them and to report thereon. Further, many had expressed a desire to extend the deadline for the submission of all draft resolutions and decisions by four or five days. The plenary's "one gavel" approach for resolutions and decisions had been considered for First Committee procedurals. The suggestion that the Assembly request the Secretariat to undertake a study on best practices for each Committee was strongly supported. In conclusion, the Chair noted that many delegations had emphasized the right of Member States to present draft proposals to the Committee whenever deemed necessary.

35. The Chair of the Fourth Committee took note of the conference room paper on the methods of work of the Committee (A/C.4/68/CRP.1), which formed the basis of its report to the Working Group. She then discussed the Committee's established work pattern, by which the Committee held a general debate on each item and then took action on draft proposals. In terms of draft resolutions, the Chair noted that some were contained in the annual reports of subsidiary bodies while others were submitted to the Committee as Chair's texts or by Member States. The Committee also heard petitioners (individuals and representatives of organizations), who spoke on some of the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories. Prior to the general debate about agenda items, interactive dialogues with high-level representatives of the Secretariat were held. The degree of participation had varied widely; the Chair hoped to see more active participation in those dialogues in future sessions. Documents, lists of speakers, voting sheets and regular e-mails from the Secretariat to delegations were made available through a secure website. In conclusion, the Chair called for the election of the Chairs of the Main Committees to be held at least three months before the opening of the session of the General Assembly, as not doing so had significantly delayed the start of the Committee's current session.

36. The Chair of the Second Committee began by citing his predecessor's paper on the Committee's working methods, which had stimulated extensive discussion. A non-paper, to be circulated by the Chair for the Committee's consideration, would include measures that could be implemented at the Bureau's discretion without the need for further decisions by the Committee, as well as measures that would require further discussion by the Committee and would probably need to be implemented through a formal decision. The Chair agreed that, to ensure efficiency, the outgoing and incoming bureaux should meet, the programme of work should be agreed upon by the Bureau-elect as soon as possible and deadlines for the submission of draft resolutions should be realistic. The Committee should hold no more than six special side events, to be selected on the basis of the Bureau's recommendations, in consultation with Member States. The Chair called for concise, focused and action-

oriented draft resolutions and strict adherence to deadlines, as well as guidelines on best practices, to help draft resolutions created by the Bureau. Further, the Chair acknowledged that it might be time to update the Committee's agenda, as many of its items overlapped with those on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council. Specific issues included reallocating items on sustainable development, the biennialization and triennialization of some resolutions and the merging of recurrent resolutions into one cluster. The Chair concluded by discussing the challenge of having an observer member inscribed on the list of speakers among the major groups.

37. The Chair of the Third Committee stated that the Committee had followed the interim arrangement for the rotation of Chairs approved by the Assembly in its decision 68/505 and agreed on the rotation of the Rapporteur for the next five years on the basis of geographical distribution. The Committee had also elected its Chair three months before the start of the next session. The Chair stated that the Committee would hold an informal briefing on the status of the preparation of work, during which representatives from the Programme Planning and Budget Division and the Editorial Control Section would be asked to present their respective guidelines. Regarding resolutions, some proposals were adopted by consensus and some, mostly in the human rights cluster of items, were adopted by a recorded vote. The Chair also noted that during the previous session a deadline of 6 p.m. had been established for the circulation of draft resolutions, as well as an accurate record of resolution sponsors, who were then requested to review the final list of sponsors of their respective texts in consultation with the Secretariat prior to the final report's submission. When reports were not available in all languages, their advance unedited versions, in English only, were posted on the website of the responsible substantive department.

38. The Vice-Chair of the Fifth Committee began by underscoring that the Committee's very heavy workload had made it difficult to have meetings on its working methods. Identifying lateness of documentation, particularly from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as its greatest impediment, the Vice-Chair explained that the delays incurred had necessitated consideration of documentation in English only, acknowledging that this practice furthered neither multilingualism nor the timely consideration of the issues before the Committee. The Chair emphasized that the resumed session of the Fifth Committee — covering issues such as the special political missions, the capital master plan and mobility — had, however, still finished on time.

39. The Vice-Chair of the Sixth Committee spoke about four issues facing the Committee. The first was that of scheduling overlaps, where the Committee's meetings coincided with those of the international tribunals, the International Law Commission or other bodies handling legal issues, thereby making coverage difficult for Committee members, particularly those with smaller delegations. The second challenge facing the Committee concerned communication with delegations: the Vice-Chair spoke of the Committee's ongoing efforts to enhance its protected e-room, a valued resource for sharing and circulating reports and other documents. The importance of electing the Chair and Bureau of the Committee was the third major challenge. The Vice-Chair called for those officials to be elected as early as possible in order to avoid significantly impeded coordination. The fourth and final challenge identified by the Vice-Chair concerned the Committee's agenda and the fact that, of its 24 items, two had recently been biennialized and one triennialized.

Interactive segment

40. Following the remarks of the Main Committee representatives, two delegations posed questions during the interactive segment of the meeting, one on behalf of a major group. A delegation, commending the interaction with the Secretariat, nonetheless wondered how it might be improved. A group then raised five issues: (a) the first related to how coordination between the Main Committees could help streamline the agenda;(b) the second, to how best to minimize overlap with other bodies, like the Economic and Social Council; (c) the third, to whether the earlier election of the Chairs and bureaux of the Main Committees would really be a major step forward; (d) the fourth, which was based on the belief that waste should be curtailed and that the distribution of paper copies in conference rooms created problems, pointed to the gains created by PaperSmart and other e-initiatives and led to the question of how those initiatives were seen in and by the Committees; and (e) lastly, the group sought the views of the Main Committees on the issue of the placement of an observer member in the list of speakers, while underlining its willingness to be flexible in the interest of work proceeding smoothly and retaining its principled position on the interpretation of resolution 65/276.

41. Responding to the first issue, the Chair of the Third Committee praised the Secretariat for the level of coordination achieved; only on document availability had there occasionally been some room for improvement. Agreeing, the Vice-Chair of the Fifth Committee emphasized that the late arrival of documents delayed deliberations. The Chair of the First Committee, speaking of its daily contact with the Secretariat, found that it had provided precious assistance.

42. On the question of the agenda and its rationalization, the Chair of the Second Committee commented that, considering the very large number of subjects handled by the General Assembly, it was vital to remember the importance of both those subjects and the Assembly as a forum for the discussion of all issues. One should not be concerned with having too many items, but rather see the positive side of possible synergies. The Chair of the Fourth Committee suggested that, while many Member States considered their items essential, it was necessary to find a happy medium in rationalization. The Chair of the First Committee warned that the issue of the agenda had been discussed several times, always coming up against the issue of sovereignty.

43. The Chair of the Fourth Committee then suggested that a working group that included the Legal Counsel be constituted to decide the question of the placement of the observer member, noting that each Main Committee was currently dealing with that issue in its own way. The proposed working group should recommend a resolution on the issue to the Assembly.

Statements/debate

44. In general statements, one group suggested that the working methods cluster was perhaps the most likely to achieve tangible results. One Member State suggested that improved working methods were a prerequisite for increased visibility; another delegation countered that enhancing efficiency alone would not be enough to revitalize the General Assembly.

45. One group stressed that the entire revitalization process, including aspects like working methods, was political in nature. Another group recalled that the General

Assembly had recently been reminded of the importance of its actions when it had adopted a resolution on the territorial integrity of Ukraine. That debate had proved that the Assembly did indeed have a more active role to play in global matters and that relevant Charter principles needed to be respected. One Member State, on the contrary, insisted that it was neither productive nor respectful of the Charter for Member States to push matters through the Assembly because they had failed to get them through the Security Council. In its view, doing so simply undermined the Assembly. Another Member State, however, commented that the inability of the Organization to take decisions did not reflect well upon it.

46. Regarding the elections of the Chairs of the Main Committees, one group believed that they should be addressed in a timely manner through consultations and on the basis of geographical distribution. They should also take place at least three months prior to the opening of the next session, to encourage advance planning and preparation. Another group expressed the view that if Member States could not agree on other proposals, the pattern agreed in decision 68/505 should be sustained. Moreover, at the seventy-second session, the Assembly should be mandated to look into rotation patterns and come up with a decision on a permanent rotation scheme that established a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism that also respected the principle of regional rotation. A Member State, agreeing that decision 68/505 was the platform from which to work, was one of a number of delegations that felt that what had occurred at the beginning of the sixty-eighth session should not be repeated. It firmly underscored, however, that any revision of the system of rotation must be discussed first in regional groups, before being considered by the Working Group. One delegation stressed that the Working Group was the optimal forum in which to find a permanent solution to the chairmanship process.

47. One Member State that supported earlier elections for both the members of the Economic and Social Council and the non-permanent members of the Security Council identified the advantages of anticipating the elections, including the fact that doing so would enhance the ability of newly elected members to contribute to the Councils. Acknowledging that earlier elections would necessitate earlier endorsement by regional groups, it nonetheless suggested holding elections about 9-12 months before the assumption of duties, noting that elections in the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council already occurred 7-10 months prior. A group expressed its willingness to explore earlier dates so as to allow for better advance planning and preparation before new members assumed their roles, while taking into account the rules of procedure of the two councils. One delegation supported finding a reasonable date, around six months earlier, and another suggested holding the elections in June, at the same time as those of the President of the General Assembly. Yet another delegation suggested that any change agreed upon should come into effect only two sessions hence, thus allowing delegations adequate time to adjust.

48. On the agenda, one group realized that progress on its rationalization would be difficult, but it called on all to show flexibility. It also requested the Co-Chairs to work with the Secretariat and prepare structured assessments of the issues that would best lend themselves to clustering. The same group suggested that coordination among the Chairs of the Main Committees could facilitate the identification of possible items for streamlining, as could the General Committee. Many speakers, however, strongly insisted that, in streamlining, the consent of the sponsoring State or States was absolutely essential. One Member State worried that

outdated items on the agenda of the Assembly were diminishing its authority. In addition to urging rationalization of the agenda and the use of sunset clauses, it called upon Member States both to exercise discipline in the submission of drafts and to focus their remarks on key themes.

49. One Member State insisted that too many high-level meetings were weakening the Assembly and the Organization, that their number should be restricted and that they should be distributed more evenly throughout the session. A group, however, emphasized that high-level meetings and thematic debates gave more visibility to very important topics, most of which were of the utmost importance to developing countries. Further, it cautioned that utmost care should be given not to schedule events that would overburden or overshadow the general debate. The proposal of allocating one or two weeks, in the middle of the session, to high-level meetings and thematic debates deserved consideration, taking into account the technical feasibility of doing so and the need to facilitate the full participation of Member States at the highest level possible. One Member State called for the development of a plenary mechanism to review recommendations from the Main Committees to avoid overcrowding. Another suggested that there should be a mechanism to monitor outcomes.

50. One delegation suggested that the division of the General Assembly session into "main" and "resumed" parts was outdated. It proposed that the *United Nations Journal* be published in all the official languages of the United Nations and it also called for more balance and coherence between the Plenary and the Main Committees.

51. One group commended the Secretariat on its many electronic initiatives, including PaperSmart and webcasting, cautioning, however, that parity of the official languages on these platforms was key. The creation of a link to a multilingual page on the revitalization of the General Assembly by the Secretariat within existing resources was also commended. Another group cautioned, that e-services should not replace hard copies of Secretariat documents and other relevant documentation, which must continue to be distributed in paper format. It insisted that all important communications be transmitted both by mail and telefax. On the voting and balloting system, while it supported technical improvement in principle, it noted that none of the systems considered to date had met the requirements of reliability, credibility, integrity and confidentiality.

52. The Co-Chairs thanked the representatives of the Main Committees for their briefings, suggesting that a synthesis of the proposals presented might lead to an interesting set of improvements. They also observed that there was room for progress — and even agreement — on a number of the issues considered.

Third thematic meeting: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system

53. The Co-Chairs convened the fourth meeting of the Working Group, which was also the third thematic meeting, on 2 May 2014, to examine the role and responsibility of the General Assembly in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system.

54. They focused immediately on increasing transparency in the selection and appointment processes, on gender and geographical balance and on the need to

select the best candidates. They emphasized that this was a good point in time to discuss both preparations and processes, that viable proposals had already been made to improve the process without having to amend the Charter and that it was important to ensure that all relevant provisions of resolutions were fully implemented and to respect fully the provisions of the Charter. They expressed the hope that it might be possible to add something new and concrete into the draft resolution of the Working Group for 2014, well in advance of selecting the new Secretary-General in 2016. Following the remarks of the Co-Chairs, 15 delegations spoke, two of them representing major groups.

55. One group began by reaffirming that, of the mandates of the General Assembly, those relating to the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General were of the utmost importance. It reiterated both its call for the process to be more transparent, credible and inclusive of all Member States, by making full use of the power of appointment enshrined in the Charter, and the need for Assembly participation to be more active, effective and efficient.

56. Regarding the balance of roles and duties between the General Assembly and the Security Council in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, one delegation stated that, while it was ready to study ways to optimize existing procedures and was supportive of reasonable and realistic proposals, it objected in principle to any attempt to redistribute the duties and responsibilities of the Charter bodies in favour of the Assembly. While greater use and participation of regional groups could be considered, the provisions and practices of Article 97 must be maintained and any changes must respect the Charter. Another speaker countered that the Assembly was not arrogating to itself duties it did not have, but rather attempting to get the Security Council to adhere to the Charter by utilizing its own legitimate authority. Another delegation pointed out that there was no need to change the existing provisions; the problem was past practice, which had sidelined non-permanent members of the Security Council. There was, however, scope for increased Assembly involvement, even under past practice.

57. A group insisted that, over the years, the Security Council had assumed too many powers in that matter and encroached on the role of the General Assembly; the group also said that resolution 11 (I) was "outdated" and had been "completed". One speaker, agreeing that resolution 11 (I) clearly needed updating, suggested that, if it had to be kept, it could be modified so that the Council would present a slate of names to the General Assembly.

58. Another Member State suggested that the General Assembly should return to the practice of voting, which it had not used since 1971, and follow rule 141 of the rules of procedure. Another delegation proposed that the selection be based on a two thirds majority vote rather than on a simple majority vote (i.e., more than half of the Assembly), and yet another specified that the veto should not be exercised in the appointment of the Secretary-General. A speaker insisted that the process of selecting the Secretary-General was an eloquent example of the lack of implementation of Assembly resolutions and suggested that the Working Group include a recommendation that proposals by the Security Council not be considered until consultations between Member States and candidates, as well as interactive meetings or hearings, had been held.

59. Another delegation urged that, rather than dwelling on perceived encroachments or overlaps in the two principal organs' roles, it was important to

ameliorate the synergy between them and to achieve a consensus built on inclusiveness, transparency and interaction. Two groups encouraged the President of the General Assembly to consult with Member States in order to identify and endorse suitable candidates for the post of Secretary-General, which could then be forwarded to the Security Council.

60. One group called for candidatures for the post to be presented formally, in a manner that would allow sufficient time for interaction with Member States. In addition, it reiterated its suggestion that the President convene hearings or meetings of the General Assembly for an exchange of views and dialogue with all candidates, as mentioned by the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on the selection and conditions of service of executive heads of United Nations system organizations (A/65/71, annex). A Member State thought that such hearings could give candidates clear impressions of Member States' thoughts on their views and proposals. Another delegation wondered whether it might not be desirable for the Security Council to submit more than one name for consideration. Another agreed that that would allow the Assembly to play a more effective role. Yet another delegation called for more specific timelines to streamline the selection process.

61. One delegation suggested a few qualifications that could serve as criteria for identifying candidates for the position of Secretary-General, including, but not limited to, moral courage, impartiality, diplomatic skills, problem-solving skills and skills in global communication. Several delegations called for objective criteria for candidates; one of them stressed multilingualism.

62. Many speakers supported the idea of a female Secretary-General, and a large number of them suggested that the next person to hold the office should be a woman. One group called for regional groups to present only female candidates in the next selection process. A Member State, stating that geographical balance was being violated and noting that one region had never held the post, demanded that this be rectified.

63. A group also recalled the recommendation of the Joint Inspection Unit on conducting hearings or meetings with candidates running for executive head posts in the United Nations common system. One delegation supported the call to have such hearings or meetings, on the understanding that they would also ensure that each Member State would have a clearer understanding of the candidates' priorities and vice versa. Further, a group recalled another report by the Unit, on transparency in the selection and appointment of senior managers in the United Nations Secretariat (A/66/380/Add.1, annex), suggesting that the Working Group might consider it, as it showed quite clearly the need to improve gender representation in the Secretariat leadership, despite the Secretary-General's commendable efforts. A Member State underscored the need to correct the clear underrepresentation of candidates from the South for posts of executive head.

64. In closing, the Co-Chairs underscored that reform of the selection and appointment process was not an exercise in wresting power from the Security Council in favour of the General Assembly or vice versa, but an opportunity to increase synergies between the two organs. They also reaffirmed the need for equitable gender and regional representation and underscored the timeliness of considering the issue at this juncture.

Fourth thematic meeting: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

65. The Co-Chairs convened the fifth meeting of the Working Group, which was also the fourth thematic meeting, on 16 May 2014, focusing on the theme "Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly". It included briefings by the Deputy Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, the Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division and the Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Public Information and Director of its Strategic Communications Division. The briefings were followed by an interactive question-and-answer session between delegations and briefers and, subsequently, by remarks from nine delegations.

66. The Co-Chairs stressed that, since the adoption of the first resolution on revitalization in 1991, the responsibilities and tasks of the General Assembly had continued to expand, as had those of its President. There was thus a need to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office of the President and ensure that the Office was adequately supported in terms of staffing and budget.

67. The Deputy Chef de Cabinet stressed that while the substantive role of the President of the General Assembly had long been lacking a specific definition, additional mandates and responsibilities had been conferred and the role of the President had continuously evolved and expanded. Furthermore, the sixty-eighth session had been exceptional in its variety and intensity of action. Fifteen co-facilitators had been appointed during the session to date, and the President had met regularly with the Presidents of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and other bodies. He had also travelled to Geneva to open the twenty-fifth regular session of the Human Rights Council. This greatly increased rhythm of work had naturally placed a strain on the human and financial resources of the Office, which had, therefore, sought the ability to recruit additional staff on a more stable and predictable basis. It requested that budgetary provisions be made for at least four additional posts.

68. The Office's budget was of crucial importance. The Deputy Chef de Cabinet found it both striking and disappointing that the Office of the President of the General Assembly continued to receive an allocation from the United Nations budget of $300,000. The increased number of mandates given to the President of the Assembly had come with a huge financial cost and the Office was therefore requesting support for an increased allocation from the Organization's budget, as well as additional contributions to the Trust Fund, a furnished apartment for the President in New York and a separate budget for international travel.

69. The earlier a core group of the Cabinet of the incoming President could be identified and made available to work along with selected members of the Cabinet of the outgoing President, the smoother the transition. Accordingly, it was essential that at least a small number of incoming Cabinet staffers be enabled to have this advantage. Further, it was advantageous for the incoming President to be able to depend on the experience of selected advisers from preceding sessions and to draw upon the wisdom and experience of former Assembly Presidents, as well as other stakeholders, such as civil society, the private sector and academia.

70. In conclusion, the Deputy Chef de Cabinet announced that the Office of the President of the General Assembly had completed its own evaluation of how the Assembly worked and that the President expected to present it, along with a set of robust, action-oriented proposals for the Assembly's consideration and endorsement.

71. The Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division briefed those present on the staffing and budget of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, as well as the support provided by the Division and the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management.

72. On staffing, he listed the five posts funded by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management that the President recruited for his Office each year, as well as the four posts in the Department that supported the Office. He also mentioned the additional post in the Office that had recently been approved in General Assembly resolution 68/246. He noted a broad range of support provided to the Office by other parts of the Secretariat, including the Department of Management, the Department of Public Information, the Department of Safety and Security and the Office of Legal Affairs. Recalling paragraph 31 of resolution 67/297, in which the Assembly emphasized the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff with responsibility to coordinate the transition between Presidents, managing interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and the preservation of institutional memory, he noted that the Secretariat had sought to increase substantive support to the Office while maintaining the current level of funding allocated to it.

73. On funding, he explained that the overall resources granted to the Office of the President of the General Assembly were difficult to trace by traditional means for two reasons: first, resources came from many sources and were thus embedded in numerous different budget lines, and, second, since each President's term spanned two calendar years, the funds were allotted in two parts from the traditional one-year calendar-based budgets. Regarding the annual amount of $300,000 mentioned earlier, he noted that it was provided to the Office to cover the costs of official travel, official hospitality and miscellaneous expenditures. In addition, during the sixty-eighth session, a number of contributions to the Trust Fund had been received, particularly to support activities aimed at setting the stage for the post-2015 development agenda. Frequently, however, the contributions were earmarked.

74. Turning to the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division, the Director of the Division noted that it encompassed analytical, substantive and technical support and included background briefs on specific substantive, procedural and technical questions. Further, the Division also advised the President-elect on a wide range of issues and facilitated the transition from one session to the next. The Director also indicated that, beyond the specific support provided to the President and his/her Office, the Division provided a whole range of conference management and support services benefitting the Office, including the preparation of speakers' lists for meetings, the organization of elections, the receipt of draft resolutions, the preparation of speaking notes and the administration of General Assembly voting and balloting.

75. Finally, the Director turned to paragraph 32 of resolution 67/297, in which the Assembly requested the Secretariat, in coordination with the Office of the President

of the General Assembly, to explore the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of past Presidents, from within existing resources, which could serve to strengthen the Office's institutional memory. Having preliminarily explored this matter, the Secretariat would seek further clarification from the Working Group on the type, nature and objective of the compendium requested, also bearing in mind the political aspects of the Secretariat issuing best practices of past Presidents when the latter were also requested by the General Assembly to brief successors directly on lessons learned and best practices.

76. The Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Public Information then briefed the Working Group. Noting that the Assembly set the mandates and priorities of the Organization, she spoke of the ways in which her Department worked to fulfil and highlight them — to tell the story of the United Nations and its essential work in as many languages as possible and on as many platforms as possible.

77. Specific support provided by Department of Public Information to the Office of the President of the General Assembly included the production and dissemination of the annual press kit of the incoming President, the production and updating of the Office's website, the provision of widespread coverage through United Nations Television, United Nations Radio, United Nations Photo, the United Nations News Centre and United Nations Webcast, social media support, and support by United Nations information centres to the President of the Assembly when he or she visited a country where such a centre operated. The Officer-in-Charge also underscored that this coverage extended to many of the thematic debates and other Assembly meetings. Her Department enhanced the visibility of the Assembly's work by webcasting all of its formal plenary meetings, those of its six Main Committees and the thematic debates convened by the President. It also seconded a staff member to serve as Deputy Spokesperson and Speechwriter for the President.

78. In the question-and-answer session that followed the briefings, a delegation announced that in late June it would host the fourth annual retreat on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, entitled "Strengthening of the General Assembly". The keynote address would be given by the President of the Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, and participants would include both the current and incoming presidencies, the Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General and members of the General Committee. The retreat was also open to any delegations wishing to attend. As with previous retreats, a summary would be circulated as an official document.

79. Nine delegations commented on the presentations given and interventions made. One Member State suggested that, as the General Assembly was the United Nations' most democratic body, it should be strengthened so as to enable it handle its growing responsibilities in a truly effective manner. Another delegation, focusing on the growing role of the President of the Assembly as a convener and bridge-builder, underscored that such efforts required time and resources. Another delegation, although supportive of reasonable and realistic proposals to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office of the President, insisted that the President's principal role was to ensure the continuous and effective functioning of the Assembly in New York, emphasizing that, in line with the Charter, the only chief administrative officer of the United Nations was the Secretary-General.

80. One group insisted that the expanding activities of the President of the General Assembly should be matched by the resources necessary for them, both human and

financial. Apart from the Trust Fund and the voluntary contributions of some Member States, many expenses were covered by the country of origin of the President, which put an extra burden on many countries with limited resources and that could not afford such costs. A second group was also concerned that, should a candidate from a country that lacked sufficient financial resources be elected President, this would put him or her at a disadvantage in terms of performing the functions expected of the office-bearer. It would also affect the credibility and impartiality of the post, as the President would need to rely on contributions from others to perform his or her duties effectively. It was important that funding from the regular budget be increased to avoid the President of the General Assembly being dependent on the Trust Fund and voluntary contributions, including from his or her own country. Another delegation, however, believed that demands could be met within the size and structure of the current Office of the President of the General Assembly.

81. One group looked forward to the proposals by the Secretary-General on reviewing the budget allocation to the Office of the President of the General Assembly to be submitted pursuant to resolutions 66/246, 66/294 and 67/297. Another group requested the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the next proposed programme budget, proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office, and it also wanted to receive further clarification from the Secretariat on the Trust Fund's current status. A few Member States raised the possibility of providing the President with an official residence. One regional group remained ready to discuss measures to improve the Office's functioning, based upon previous recommendations of the Working Group and relevant resolutions, and within the existing budgetary framework. One Member State, however, insisted firmly that questions regarding the functioning of the Office and its budgetary implications should be considered by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee. Furthermore, it believed that the effectiveness of the use of the resources already provided to the Office should be taken into consideration, and suggested using Secretariat resources for Office in much the same way Secretariat resources were allocated to the Security Council.

82. On human resources, one group stressed the importance of strict implementation by the Secretariat of the provisions of resolutions related to the assignment of the Spokesperson and Deputy Spokesperson of the President of the General Assembly. It also expressed concern that expenses related to the President's security had put an extra burden on already limited resources. One group underscored the need to assign additional posts to the Office of the President on a permanent basis, specifying that the staffing of the Office should reflect both diversity and geographical balance. A delegation stressed the importance of balancing professional and geographical considerations, urging that there be more candidates from developing countries. One Member State, however, noted that, in its resolution 68/246, the Assembly had already provided two professional posts to the Office.

83. Turning to best practices and lessons learned, one group reiterated its request to outgoing Presidents to brief their successors and its request to the Secretariat to explore, in coordination with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of past Presidents. Another group urged that the briefings of outgoing Presidents to their successors be shared

with the Working Group. Furthermore, it underscored that it was possible to benefit from the experiences of past Presidents through the Council of Presidents.

84. On the practice of the President periodically briefing Member States on his or her activities, including official travels, one regional group felt that it was not only a valuable source of information, but also an act of transparency of paramount importance. A Member State specifically supported archiving the records of the Office of the President as a means of strengthening institutional memory. Another delegation wanted to know what provisions were in place for incoming teams to arrive early and how many incoming staff could be brought on during transition. Yet another supported the retention of staff from the Office of the President for more than one session, but it cautioned, however, that this should be cost-effective and done within agreed resources.

85. In the question-and-answer session that followed, the Director of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division provided an overview of the Trust Fund, enumerating the level of donations made to it in each session. He reiterated that many of those donations were earmarked either for specific events and activities or to cover the salaries of the staff of the Office of the President of the General Assembly. In highlighting efforts made to support the President and his Office, he also acknowledged and reconfirmed the impact of new and additional mandates.

86. The Deputy Chef de Cabinet offered appreciation for the remarks made in the course of the meeting and the support expressed. He was particularly appreciative of the update on the status of the Trust Fund, which he hoped would be an important factor for Member States in considering the needs of the Office.

87. In closing, the Co-Chairs noted that the preservation and passage of institutional memory, in part through continuity of experience, had been particularly emphasized by many. It was clear that it would continue to be essential to look for innovative solutions, often without budgetary implications. More broadly, the Co-Chairs called for such useful meetings and briefings to continue and hoped that the President of the General Assembly and/or the Office might hold annual briefings on the problems and issues encountered.

III. Conclusion

88. In accordance with its mandate, the Working Group endeavoured to identify key issues of concern and possible consensus, to examine the current status of implementation of those issues and either to take action or to indicate possible further action to be taken.

89. At its final meeting, held on 17 July 2014, the Working Group considered and adopted the present report, including the draft resolution contained in section IV below (see para. 91).

IV. Recommendation

90. On the basis of a draft resolution circulated by the Co-Chairs, the Working Group formulated the resolution set out below.

91. At its final meeting, on 17 July 2014, the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly concluded its work for the sixty-eighth session. The Working Group recommended that the Assembly adopt the following draft resolution:

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 67/297 of 29 August 2013 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,[1]

Underlining the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly,

Reiterating that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

Reaffirming also the role and authority of the General Assembly in global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

Welcoming the efforts of the President of the General Assembly to reinvigorate the revitalization of the work of the Assembly during its sixty-eighth session,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly, and the updated inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed thereto;[2]

2. *Also welcomes* the establishment of a multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating that web page and its substantive content;

3. *Decides* to establish, at its sixty-ninth session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

4. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the

[1] 46/77, 47/233, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163, 55/14, 55/285, 56/509, 57/300, 57/301, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292, 62/276, 63/309, 64/301, 65/315 and 66/294.

[2] A/68/951.

report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-eighth session, and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session;

Role and authority of the General Assembly

6. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

7. *Recognizes* that implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, enhances the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and underlines the important role and responsibility of Member States in their full implementation;

8. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, and in this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General;

9. *Also reaffirms* the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and encourages the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity with its relevant rules of procedure;

10. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and encourages the President of the General Assembly to continue this practice in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States on the preliminary programme in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates and, in this context, welcomes the initiative of the President of the Assembly at the sixty-eighth session to select "The post-2015 development agenda: setting the stage" as the theme of the general debate;

[3] A/68/774.

11. *Welcomes* the improvement in the quality of the annual reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly, and encourages the Council to make further improvement as necessary;

12. *Invites* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance, in the light of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter;

Working methods

13. *Appreciates* the briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group about the working methods of their respective Committees during the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and in this regard encourages the Main Committees:

(a) To ensure adequate coordination in their work while avoiding overlap and duplication;

(b) To elect the bureau of each Committee at least three months in advance of the session for better coordination and for smoother hand-over of their work;

(c) To benefit from their respective intranet and other online services to facilitate the smooth organization and timely conclusion of their work;

(d) To share experiences, best practices and lessons learned concerning their respective working methods;

(e) To further enhance sharing of information on the work and activities of the Main Committees within each Main Committee;

14. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate;

15. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the role of the General Committee to support the work of the General Assembly;

16. *Emphasizes* that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the sixty-ninth session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group;

17. *Decides* to conduct the elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, beginning at the seventieth session;

18. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates with a view to optimizing the number, especially during the general debate, and distribution of such events throughout the session;

19. *Reaffirms* resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, by which the Assembly, inter alia, decided that the general debate should be held without interruption, and encourages the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly;

20. *Encourages* Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs, reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents;

21. *Decides* to reiterate the interim arrangement adopted in General Assembly decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013 recommending the pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming five sessions, namely from the sixty-ninth to seventy-third sessions, as well as the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees contained in the annex to the present resolution;

22. *Requests* in this regard that the Ad Hoc Working Group prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism, in consultation with regional groups, and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at the seventy-second session, and in this regard invites Member States to present proposals and begin early on to give attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement, which would come into effect at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly, with the annex to the present resolution containing an option to be considered in this context;

23. *Encourages* Member States to seek gender balance in the distribution of Chairs of the Main Committees and in the position of the President of the General Assembly;

24. *Underlines* the need to fully implement and observe rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which provides that, during the sessions of the Assembly, the *Journal of the United Nations* shall be published in the languages of the Assembly, from within existing resources;

Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

25. *Reaffirms* its commitment to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its consideration of the revitalization of the role of the General Assembly in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, and calls for the full implementation of all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11 (1) of 24 January 1946, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 60/286 of 8 September 2006, in particular paragraphs 17 to 22 of the annex thereto, and 64/301 of 13 September 2010, keeping in mind the applicable

procedures in the rules of procedure, including rule 141, while acknowledging existing relevant Assembly practices;

26. *Reiterates* that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to other executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and re-emphasizes the need for the process of selection of the Secretary-General to be transparent and inclusive of all Member States;

27. *Notes* that the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General is expected to take place in 2016, and as a result encourages, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly to actively support this process in accordance with the role accorded to him or her by relevant resolutions;[4]

28. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance, while meeting the highest possible requirements on the appointment of executive heads of the Organization;

29. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the selection and conditions of service of executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system,[5] proposing that the General Assembly conduct hearings or meetings with candidates running for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations;

Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

30. *Notes with appreciation* the views expressed by the Office of the President of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly and its relationship with the Secretariat[2] and measures already undertaken in this regard, while continuing to explore additional measures where feasible, and notes the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to the Office of the President of the Assembly;

31. *Encourages* the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel;

32. *Commends* the initiative of convening a retreat on the strengthening of the General Assembly, which brings together the incoming and outgoing presidencies of each session of the Assembly, and in this regard takes note of the summary of the proceedings of the retreat held on 11 and 12 July 2013;[6]

33. *Encourages* exchanges of the President-elect of the General Assembly with the Council of Presidents in order to benefit from the experiences of former Presidents in terms of best practices and lessons learned, as part of strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly;

[4] 51/241, 60/286 and 64/301.
[5] A/65/71, annex.
[6] A/68/669, annex.

34. *Encourages* Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly on sources of the funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat;

36. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility for coordinating the transition between Presidents, managing interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and the preservation of institutional memory;

37. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the Assembly in previous resolutions, and expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in accordance with existing procedures;

39. *Stresses* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation contributions that have been made to the Fund and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the Fund;

40. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the role, mandate and activities of the President.

Annex

Guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly

1. The allocation of chairmanships of the Main Committees for the next session of the General Assembly, in case there is an intention to switch or waive chairmanship, shall be determined by the regional groups involved with facilitation and coordination by the President of the Assembly as soon as possible before the opening of that session of the Assembly.

2. Member States and regional groups might wish to consider the following pattern of regional rotation of chairmanships for the Main Committees starting at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly:

Session	*First Committee*	*Fourth Committee*	*Second Committee*	*Third Committee*	*Fifth Committee*	*Sixth Committee*
Seventy-fourth	Latin American and Caribbean States	Asia-Pacific States[a,b]	African States	Western European and other States[b]	Asia-Pacific States[a]	Eastern European States
Seventy-fifth	Western European and other States	African States[a,b]	Asia-Pacific States[b]	Eastern European States	African States[a,b]	Latin American and Caribbean States[b]
Seventy-sixth	African States[b]	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States	Asia-Pacific States[a]	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States[a]
Seventy-seventh	Asia-Pacific States	African States[a,b]	Eastern European States	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States	African States[a]
Seventy-eighth	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States[b]	Latin American and Caribbean States[a]	Western European and other States[b]	African States[b]	Latin American and Caribbean States[a,b]

Session	*First Committee*	*Fourth Committee*	*Second Committee*	*Third Committee*	*Fifth Committee*	*Sixth Committee*
Seventy-ninth	African States[a,b]	Eastern European States	Asia-Pacific States[b]	African States[a]	Latin American and Caribbean States	Western European and other States

[a] Regional group holding two chairmanships during the session.

[b] Regional group holding two chairmanships in this Committee during the period from the seventy-fourth to the seventy-ninth sessions.

3. The decision on switching or waiving the chairmanship of a Main Committee shall be taken by the regional groups involved in coordination with the President of the General Assembly. Such a decision shall not affect the general pattern of allocation of chairmanships of the Main Committees among the regional groups in consecutive sessions.

4. The Rapporteur of a Main Committee should be elected from the regional group that held the chairmanship of the Committee at the previous session.

Annex

Updated inventory chart of General Assembly resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, issued pursuant to resolution 67/297

Explanatory note by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (sixty-eighth session)

1. In accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 67/297, in which the Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly (A/67/936), and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session, the Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, have prepared the updated inventory chart for consideration by Member States.

2. The present inventory chart has been updated to reflect the progress achieved since the adoption of resolution 67/297.

3. The Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, obtained updated information, where possible, from relevant entities responsible for implementation.

4. The updated inventory chart retains the following two-part structure, which was also utilized in the report submitted at the sixty-seventh session:

(a) The first part contains unimplemented provisions, in order to focus on their follow-up;

(b) The second part contains implemented provisions, both those that required one-time action and those to be implemented on an ongoing basis, in order to keep track of previous achievements and provide the means to compare with and learn from past experience.

5. Thus, in practical terms, the updated inventory chart can continue to provide clear evidence of ongoing progress and signal opportunities for further progress.

6. The inventory chart does not have a definite character and may be amended at any time by Member States through the Ad Hoc Working Group. Furthermore, it is not intended to, and does not, have any legal effect. It should serve only as a tool to facilitate discussions on the follow-up to the implementation of the previous related resolutions.

Part I
Provisions requiring follow-up

Cluster I: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	General provisions related to the role and authority of the General Assembly (See part II)			
B.	Provisions related to the election of the President of the General Assembly and members of the General Committee (See also part II)			
	67/297, para. 22	Ad Hoc Working Group to prepare arrangements concerning the election of Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly, with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism for the elections at an early stage of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and not later than six months before the start of its sixty-ninth session, and to submit them to the Assembly not later than three months before the start of its sixty-ninth session; regional groups to be guided by these arrangements for the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the sixty-ninth session.	Ad Hoc Working Group, General Assembly, regional groups	In its decision 68/505, taken at its 24th plenary meeting on 1 October 2013, the General Assembly, on the proposal of its President, decided to approve an interim arrangement concerning the rotation of the chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming five sessions of the Assembly.
C.	**Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council (See also part II)**			
1.	60/286, annex, para. 7 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (d); and 58/126, annex, para. 2	Also invites the Security Council to submit periodically, in accordance with Articles 15 and 24 of the Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the General Assembly for its consideration on issues of current international concern.	Member States (Security Council)	Since the adoption of resolution 58/126 no special subject-oriented reports have been formally submitted to the General Assembly. The special subjects are to some extent covered by the monthly assessments by the Presidents of the Security Council.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
D.	Provisions related to the annual report of the Economic and Social Council (See part II)			
E.	Provisions related to the annual report of the International Court of Justice (See part II)			
F.	Provisions related to public relations activities (See also part II)			
	67/297, para. 16	Decides to establish a link devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly on the Assembly page on the United Nations website, from within existing resources, following the model of the websites of the Main Committees.	Secretariat	Implemented.
G.	Provisions related to General Assembly cooperation with civil society and others (See part II)			
H.	Provisions related to the organization of work (See part II)			
I.	Provisions related to interactive/thematic debates (See part II)			
J.	Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs (See also part II)			
	67/297, para. 17	Encourages exploration of the possibility of electing the non-permanent members of the Security Council and members of the Economic and Social Council earlier than October of each year, as is currently the practice, in order to foster better advance planning and preparation before the members assume such responsibilities.	General Assembly	Being considered by the Ad Hoc Working Group in the sixty-eighth session.
K.	Provisions related to the implementation and follow-up of resolutions (See part II)			

Cluster II: working methods

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	General provisions related to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (See part II)			
B.	Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees (See part II)			
C.	Provisions related to the general debate (See part II)			
D.	Provisions related to the conduct of business: time limits on speeches (See part II)			
E.	Provisions related to modern technologies (See part II)			
F.	**Provisions related to documentation: resolutions (See also part II)**			
2.	60/286, annex, para. 23 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 5	Encourages Member States to submit draft resolutions in a more concise, focused and action-oriented form.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of Member States to submit proposals in the context of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
G.	**Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports (See also part II)**			
3.	58/316, annex, para. 6 (c) *Also in*: 57/300, para. 20	To take the necessary action to initiate the implementation of provisions of paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to start, on a trial basis, a consultative process with the President of the General Assembly and the Chairmen of the Main Committees of the Assembly at the end of the main part of each session of the Assembly, with a view to consolidating reports on related subjects, if decided by the Main Committees.	Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, Member States	Consultations have not been held, as there is no applicable decision by the Main Committees.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
4.	55/285, annex, para. 15 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 32	Member States need to take concrete action to implement paragraph 32 of the annex to resolution 51/241, including by requesting more integrated reports. Paragraph 32 reads: *The number of reports requested shall be rationalized where possible so as to permit more focused consideration of issues. All bodies shall exercise restraint in making proposals containing requests for new reports and should consider integrating, biennializing or triennializing the presentation of reports, bearing in mind paragraphs 6 and 7 of General Assembly resolution 50/206 C of 23 December 1995.*	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.
H. Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports (See also part II)				
5.	55/285, annex, para. 17	Member States and entities of the United Nations system should make a serious effort to submit their replies and inputs to requests for information or views pursuant to resolutions of the General Assembly within the prescribed deadlines.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.
6.	59/313, para. 17	Encourages Member States, when seeking additional information, to request that they be provided with the information either orally or, if in writing, in the form of information sheets, annexes, tables and the like, and encourages the wider use of this practice.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
I.	**Provisions related to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (See also part II)**			
7.	55/285, annex, para. 14 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 7	As regards implementation of paragraph 7 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly, after consideration by the Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, shall inform the Assembly of his assessment of the debate on the report in order for the Assembly to determine the need for further action.	President of the General Assembly	According to the practice, the Secretary-General introduces his report at the beginning of the general debate. Consequently, the President of the General Assembly presents his assessment at the conclusion of the general debate. No additional assessment by the President is provided after plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
8.	51/241, annex, para. 8	The General Assembly in plenary meeting may refer sections of the report for more detailed consideration by the Main Committees.	Member States	Provision has never been applied in practice. However, it does not formulate any definite obligation to refer sections of the report for more detailed consideration by the Main Committees.
J.	Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly (See part II)			
K.	**Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly (See also part II)**			
9.	60/286, annex, para. 26	Decides, in that respect, to give due consideration to those recommendations of the Main Committees regarding the improvement of their working methods and the allocation of agenda items which require the approval of the General Assembly for their implementation.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
L.	**Provisions related to the General Committee**			
10.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (e)	The General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, shall continue to consider the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the General Assembly and make recommendations thereon to the Assembly during its fifty-ninth session.	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision the General Committee has made no recommendations to the General Assembly on the biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of its customary agenda.
11.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (g)	At the beginning of each session, the General Committee, following recommendations from the President of the General Assembly, shall recommend to the Assembly a programme of, and format for, interactive debates on the items on its agenda.	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision the General Committee has made no recommendations to the General Assembly on a programme of interactive debates on the items on its agenda.

Cluster III: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	**General provision related to the selection of the Secretary-General**			
12.	60/286, annex, para. 17 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 57	Recalls Article 97 of the Charter, as well as the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 11 (I) of 24 January 1946 and 51/241, as relevant to the role of the Assembly in appointing the Secretary-General, upon the recommendation of the Security Council.		No specific action.
13.	60/286, annex, para. 22	Emphasizes the importance of candidates for the post of Secretary-General possessing and displaying, inter alia, commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, extensive leadership, and administrative and diplomatic experience.		No specific action.
B.	**Provisions related to the selection process (See also part II)**			
14.	60/286, annex, para. 19 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 60	Encourages, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly to consult with Member States to identify potential candidates endorsed by a Member State and, upon informing all Member States of the results, to forward those results to the Security Council.	Member States, President of the General Assembly	No consultations upon the appointment of a new Secretary-General have taken place. Provision to be implemented every five years.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
15.	60/286, annex, para. 20	Also encourages formal presentation of candidatures for the position of Secretary-General in a manner that allows sufficient time for interaction with Member States, and requests candidates to present their views to all States members of the General Assembly.	Member States	Presentation of candidature is being made in the form of letters to the Security Council. Since the adoption of that provision, there have been no formal meetings with the candidates in the General Assembly.
C.	**Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term (See also part II)**			
16.	51/241, annex, para. 58	The duration of the term or terms of appointment, including the option of a single term, shall be considered before the appointment of the next Secretary-General.	Member States	Member States decide on the duration of the term on a case-by-case basis, on the recommendation of the Security Council.

Cluster IV: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the President of the General Assembly (See part II)			
B.	**Provisions related to the competencies of the President of the General Assembly (See also part II)**			
17.	67/297, para. 26 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 31; and 64/301, para. 10 (for the 2012-2013 biennium budget)	Notes that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the Assembly in previous resolutions, expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and in this context looks forward to the submission by the Secretary-General of his proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office pursuant to paragraph 32 of resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011 and paragraph 31 of resolution 66/294.	Secretary-General	The Fifth Committee considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 during the main part of the sixty-eighth session.
	67/297, para. 29	Requests the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the role, mandate and activities of the President.	President of the General Assembly	President of the General Assembly to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group in the course of the sixty-eighth session.

Part II
Provisions that have been implemented or are being implemented on an ongoing basis

Cluster I: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	**General provisions related to the role and authority of the General Assembly**			
18.	66/294, para. 4 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 4; 64/301, para. 4; 60/286, annex I, para. 1; and 59/313, para. 2 (b)	Reaffirms the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter.	Member States	Ongoing provision. The General Assembly has a number of items on its agenda that fall under this provision. Since the adoption of this provision, the tenth emergency special session held its 30th and 31st plenary meetings on 15 December 2006 and its 32nd and 33rd plenary meetings on 15 and 16 January 2009.
B.	**Provisions related to the election of the President of the General Assembly and members of the General Committee**			
19.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 9	In accordance with paragraph 2 (a) and (c) of resolution 56/509, the General Assembly elects the President of the Assembly, the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly, and the Chairmen of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of the session in which they will serve. In order to foster better advance planning and preparation of the work of the Main Committees, the full bureaux of the Main Committees shall similarly be elected three months in advance of the next session.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as from the fifty-eighth session. This provision as well as rules 30 and 99 (a) apply to the election of the President of the General Assembly and the Vice-Presidents.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
C.	**Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council (See also part I)**			
20.	67/297, para. 10 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 11; 65/315, para. 10; and 64/301, para. 9	Welcomes the improvement in the quality of the annual reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly, encourages the Council to make further improvement as necessary.	Security Council	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Further to the measures contained in the notes by the President of the Security Council of 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507) and of 5 June 2012 (S/2012/402), presidencies may consider organizing interactive informal exchanges of views with the wider membership prior to the adoption of the report.
21.	60/286, annex, para. 4 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, para. 3	Invites the Security Council to further its initiatives to improve the quality of its annual report to the General Assembly, mandated by Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, in order to provide the Assembly with a substantive and analytical report.	Security Council	The report of the Security Council is being improved in a gradual manner. In the 1990s the report was changed to reflect changes in the working methods of the Security Council. Since 2000, further changes have been introduced; inter alia, the introductory part has been added. Since then, the Security Council has focused more on the introduction to the report. In 2006, information on special political missions was added to the report. Since the sixty-third session, the report has been prepared on the basis of new guidelines according to the findings of the Security Council Working Group on Documentation.
22.	59/313, para. 2 (c) *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (f)	To consider the annual reports as well as special reports of the Security Council, in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 1, and Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, through substantive and interactive debates.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The annual report of the Security Council is being considered through substantive and interactive debates.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
23.	51/241, annex, para. 11	The agenda item entitled "Report of the Security Council" shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The annual report of the Security Council is considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
24.	51/241, annex, para. 14	The monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council shall be circulated for the information of members of the General Assembly.	Security Council	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Member States are provided with the monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council in hard copies. The programme of work is also uploaded on the website of the Security Council.
25.	60/286, annex, para. 5 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, para. 4; and 51/241, annex, para. 12	In carrying out the assessment of the debate on the annual report of the Security Council called for in paragraph 12 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President shall inform the General Assembly of his decision regarding the need for further consideration of the report of the Council, including in respect of the convening of informal consultations, on the need for, and content of, any action by the Assembly based on the debate, as well as on any matters to be brought to the attention of the Council.	President of the General Assembly	To date, consideration of the annual report of the Security Council has been held in the plenary only.
26.	51/241, annex, para. 12	The President of the General Assembly shall assess the debate on this item and consider the need for further consideration of the report of the Security Council.	President of the General Assembly	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the General Assembly provides opening remarks and a closing assessment of the debate.
27.	51/241, annex, para. 13	The agenda item shall not be closed but shall remain open to enable further discussion as necessary during the year, bearing in mind, inter alia, the submission of additional reports as and when necessary.	Member States (General Assembly)	Since the sixty-second session, the agenda item has remained open at every session.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
D.	**Provisions related to the annual report of the Economic and Social Council**			
28.	60/286, annex, para. 8	Invites the Economic and Social Council to continue to prepare its report to the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227, striving to make it more concise and action-oriented by highlighting the critical areas requiring action by the Assembly and, as appropriate, by making specific recommendations for consideration by the Member States.	Member States (Economic and Social Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
29.	51/241, annex, para. 15	The report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly shall be prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227. The report shall also contain an evaluation of the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, taking into account the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.	Member States (Economic and Social Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
E.	**Provisions related to the annual report of the International Court of Justice**			
30.	51/241, annex, para. 16	The report of the International Court of Justice shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly. The Assembly shall continue to support the role of the International Court of Justice as the principal judicial organ of the Organization, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly shall also continue to encourage the progressive development and codification of international law.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Since the fifty-second session the report has continued to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
F.	**Provisions related to public relations activities**			
31.	67/297, para. 11 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 22; 65/315, para. 18;	Encourages the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and to enhance	Secretariat	The Department of Public Information provides extensive coverage of the work of the General Assembly, its Committees and all major subsidiary bodies

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
	64/301, para. 20; 63/309, para. 8; and 60/286, annex, para. 14	world public and media awareness of its work, and in this regard recalls paragraph 10 of its resolution 67/124 B of 18 December 2012, in which it noted the efforts of the Department to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly and requested the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly Requests the Department of Public Information to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and stresses the importance of further enhancing public and media awareness of the work and decisions of the Assembly, including through their timely issuance and distribution in all official languages.		through print, online, audio and video news media. Wire-agency style news stories put out by the United Nations News Centre in the six official languages are a key part of this coverage. The President of the General Assembly is regularly interviewed and featured on the United Nations News Centre and United Nations Radio. The Department of Public Information also provides comprehensive press releases, in English and French, of all meetings of the Assembly, its main committees and its subsidiary bodies, which are also included in the daily media alert, and statements made by Member States are made available in print and online form to the press. The annual press kit on the incoming President of the General Assembly is produced in the six official languages as well as in a number of non-official languages. United Nations Radio, whose general debate coverage includes a series of interviews with visiting officials that are broadcast in different languages, also places links to the text of general debate speeches on its website. United Nations Television and Video provides gavel-to-gavel live feeds to broadcasters around the world of the meetings of the General Assembly, as well as related press conferences. This coverage is also made available on the United Nations webcast platform. In the sixty-seventh session, for the first time, as mandated by the

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
				General Assembly, the Department of Public Information provided live and on-demand webcast coverage of all Main Committee meetings. United Nations Photo also provided thorough coverage of the General Assembly during the reporting period, with photos available on the United Nations Photo website. Through social media platforms, the Department of Public Information further communicates information about the work and priorities of the Assembly. These include YouTube, Twitter, Facebook and Sina Weibo. The quarterly *United Nations Chronicle*, the annual *Yearbook of the United Nations* and *Basic Facts About the United Nations* also contain extensive coverage of the structure and function of the General Assembly. In addition, the new smart phone educational application "United Nations calendar of observances: making a difference" promotes awareness of and action on important issues before the General Assembly, as well as ways to become involved in related events and links to further information. Through its weekly Thursday briefing programme for the non-governmental community, the Department of Public Information also covers issues before the General Assembly. Its Creative Community Outreach Initiative has facilitated filming in the General Assembly Hall for television and film productions, and its annual five-week-long

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				training programme for journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition exposes junior and mid-level journalists to the work of the United Nations during the general debate. The Department of Public Information's network of 62 United Nations Information Centres, Services and Offices also continues to carry out numerous public information activities to enhance awareness of the work of the General Assembly. The Centres widely disseminated press kits for the sixty-sixth, sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions of the Assembly that were frequently translated into local languages and disseminated to media representatives, Government officials and civil society. The Department of Public Information further enhanced public and media awareness of the work and decisions of the General Assembly by disseminating messages from the Spokesperson of the President of the General Assembly to field duty stations. United Nation Information Centres also provide media and communication support to the President of the General Assembly during official visits to the countries where they are located. The Department of Public Information regularly seconds a staff member at the Professional level to serve as the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
				In addition, the Committee on Information continues to consider ways and means to enhance the visibility of the work of the General Assembly, including through the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group.
32.	66/294, para. 14 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 15	Urges the Secretariat to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly, reaffirms paragraph 15 of resolution 60/286, and decides that the announcements about the work of the principal organs of the United Nations should appear in the *Journal of the United Nations* in the order stipulated in Article 7 of the Charter. Urges the Secretariat to continue its endeavours to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and, to that end, requests the rearrangement of items in the *Journal* so that listings of plenary meetings and other major events of the General Assembly may appear alongside those of the meetings of the Security Council.	Secretariat	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Pursuant to resolution 66/294, announcements about the work of the principal organs of the United Nations in the *Journal of the United Nations* appear in the order stipulated in Article 7 of the Charter. In an effort to raise the visibility of the General Assembly, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management periodically briefs media on the programme of work of the General Assembly. As from the sixty-first session the items in the *Journal of the United Nations* have been rearranged (A/61/483 and A/62/608).
33.	60/286, annex, para. 16	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson.	President of the General Assembly, Secretary-General	Ongoing provision. Since the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairmen of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions (see also A/61/483, p. 20 and A/62/608, p. 15). As indicated in row 30 above, the Department of Public Information regularly seconds a staff member at the Professional level to serve as the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly, in addition to providing support to the President and his Office by a number of other means.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
34.	58/126, annex, para. 8	The work and decisions of the General Assembly should be better publicized. Accordingly, the support provided by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat for these purposes should be intensified and strengthened. The Secretary-General is requested to present a plan to this end, within existing resources, to the next session of the Committee on Information, so that recommendations can be made to the Assembly.	Secretary-General (Department of Public Information)	One-time action. A plan was presented by the Secretary-General to the Committee on Information at its twenty-sixth session (see A/AC.198/2004/6; see also resolutions 59/126 B and 60/286, annex, para. 14, A/61/483, p. 11 and A/62/608).
G.	**Provisions related to the General Assembly cooperation with civil society and others**			
35.	60/286, annex, para. 12	Encourages enhanced interaction, as and where appropriate, with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues.	General Assembly	Ongoing provision. Since the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairs of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions (A/61/483, p. 20, and A/62/608, p. 15).
36.	60/286, annex, para. 13	Also encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the General Assembly and national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union.	General Assembly	Provision has been implemented on an ongoing basis. Numerous meetings have been held between the President of the General Assembly and visiting parliamentarians. The Inter-Parliamentary Union also participates as an observer in debates of the General Assembly.
H.	**Provisions related to the organization of work**			
37.	55/285, annex, para. 19 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 28	In order to implement fully paragraph 28 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly is encouraged to make greater use of facilitators, where appropriate.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
38.	51/241, annex, para. 27	The General Assembly is the highest political body with universal membership of the Organization. Consideration of agenda items directly in plenary meetings shall be reserved for urgent issues or issues of major political importance, bearing in mind paragraphs 1 and 2 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 48/264.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
39.	51/241, annex, para. 28	The President of the General Assembly, with a view to ensuring that there is a systematic and transparent process for participation by delegations in discussions on action to be taken on items considered directly in plenary meetings, shall assess the debate in plenary meetings.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Usually, the President of the General Assembly provides his assessment of the debates in plenary meetings whenever items considered are of particular importance or special interest to Member States.
40.	51/241, annex, para. 29	The Secretariat shall ensure, in consultation with the President, that priority is accorded to the availability of a meeting room and services to facilitate these consultations.	Secretary-General	Provision is being implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
I.	**Provisions related to interactive/thematic debates**			
41.	67/297, para. 7 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 7; 65/315, para. 6; 64/301, para. 5; 60/286, annex, para. 3; 59/313, para. 3 (a); and 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 3	Recognizes the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and invites the President of the General Assembly to continue this practice and to consult with the General Committee and Member States on the preliminary programme of such debates as well as on the possibilities for achieving, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates, and to recommend to the Assembly, at the beginning of each session, the preliminary programme.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Presidents of the General Assembly regularly inform Member States by letter of the format and agenda of forthcoming thematic debates whose outcomes are posted on the website of the President of the Assembly. For a list of thematic debates convened during each session, please refer to the websites of the Presidents of the General Assembly.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
42.	59/313, para. 12	Encourages the holding of interactive debates with a view to contributing to intergovernmental decision-making.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
J.	**Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs**			
43.	66/294, para. 10 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 9; 64/301, paras. 7 and 8; 60/286, annex, para. 2; 58/126, annex, para. 6; 55/285, annex, para. 21; and 51/241, annex, para. 43	Stresses the importance of ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and exchange of information among the principal organs, welcomes the holding of regular meetings of the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session with the Secretary-General and the Presidents of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as well as with the Chairs of subsidiary bodies, and briefings to Member States on the outcomes of these meetings on a regular basis, and encourages the continuation of such practice.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
44.	58/126, annex, para. 5	The President of the General Assembly should continue to be briefed regularly by the President of the Security Council on the work of the Council. The President of the Assembly may wish to inform Member States about the substantive issues raised during these meetings.	President of the Security Council, President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council are meeting at monthly intervals.
45.	60/286, annex, para. 6 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (e)	Invites the Security Council to update the General Assembly on a regular basis on the steps it has taken.	Member States (Security Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Information on the steps taken by the Security Council is provided during the meetings with the President of the General Assembly as well as included in the monthly assessments by the Presidents of the Security Council.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
K.	**Provisions related to the implementation and follow-up of resolutions**			
46.	67/297, para. 3 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 3; 65/315, para. 3; and 64/301, para. 3	Also decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly,[a] and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report at the sixty-eighth session.	General Assembly (Ad Hoc Working Group)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Pursuant to resolution 67/297, the Ad Hoc Working Group has before it an updated version of the inventory.
47.	67/297, para. 3 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 3; 65/315, para. 3; and 64/301, para. 3	Requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly.	Secretary-General	Implemented. As indicated in paragraph 3 of A/68/774, "The Secretary-General [informed] the General Assembly that all provisions of the resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly addressed to the Secretariat have been implemented in full".
48.	58/126, annex, para. 9	Member States and the Secretariat should consider initiatives that might be taken for better monitoring of the follow-up of resolutions of the General Assembly, such as the provision of timely inputs for reports of the Secretary-General and giving effect to proposals that would advance the follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits.	Member States, Secretary-General	Communications from the Secretary-General have been sent to Member States on an ongoing basis to ask for pertinent information (A/61/483 and A/62/608).
49.	59/313, para. 1	Stresses the need to demonstrate political will to ensure the effective implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision does not contain request for specific action.

[a] A/67/936.

Cluster II: working methods

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
A. General provisions related to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly				
50.	60/286, annex, para. 24 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 14	Requests the Secretary-General to issue the rules of procedure of the General Assembly in a consolidated version in all official languages, in print and online.	Secretary-General	One-time action. The consolidated version of the rules of procedure is set out in document A/520/Rev.16 and Corr.1, both in print and online (A/62/608, p. 15).[b]
51.	60/286, annex, para. 24	Requests the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to make precedents and past practice available in the public domain with respect to rules and practices of the intergovernmental bodies of the Organization.	Secretary-General, Office of Legal Affairs	Implemented.
B. Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees				
52.	66/294, para. 9 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 8	Welcomes the holding of periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General and encourages him to continue this practice.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretary-General periodically briefs Member States in informal plenary meetings of the General Assembly on his priorities, travels and most recent activities.
53.	67/297, para. 18 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 20; and 65/315, para. 16	Reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing the number and distribution of such events.	Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, Main Committee Chairs, Member States	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretariat takes an active role in providing advice, as requested, in the consultations on high-level plenary meetings, high-level thematic debates and other events scheduled near the general debate, to ensure optimum scheduling and utilization. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management also regularly briefs Member States on arrangements for the forthcoming general debate and other high-level meetings convened in its vicinity. Further, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General has adopted an

[b] A revised edition of the rules of procedure has been issued under the symbol A/520/Rev.17.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				internal mechanism to ensure the coordination of initiatives emanating from departments and offices of the Secretariat, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations.
54.	59/313, para. 11	Strongly urges all officers presiding over meetings of the General Assembly to start such meetings on time.	Secretary-General, Department of General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. Periodically, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides presiding officers with statistics on the financial impact of the implementation of this provision (A/61/483, p. 19, and A/62/608).
55.	58/316, annex, para. 1 (b)	With effect from the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the meetings of the plenary Assembly shall normally be held on Mondays and Thursdays.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	As from the fifty-ninth session, plenary meetings of the Assembly are scheduled and held on Mondays and Thursdays to the extent possible (A/61/483, p. 13, and A/62/608).
56.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 2	The work of the Main Committees of the General Assembly might benefit if it is scheduled over two substantive periods during the session. ... With a view to enabling the Assembly to consider changes in this regard, with effect from the sixtieth session of the Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to present, by 1 February 2004, various options for consideration by the General Committee, taking into account the requirements of the relevant intergovernmental bodies and the different locations of their meetings and the budget cycle.	Secretary-General	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Options for the rescheduling of the Main Committees of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.3), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session (A/61/483, p. 12, and A/62/608, p. 7).

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
C.	**Provisions related to the general debate**			
57.	57/301, para. 2 *Also in*: 57/301, para. 3; and 51/241, annex, paras. 19 and 20 (a)	Also decides that the general debate in the General Assembly shall open on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and shall be held without interruption over a period of nine working days.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Included in annex VIII to the rules of procedure. The general debate opens on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and is being held without interruption over a period of nine working days.
58.	51/241, annex, para. 20 (b)-(e)	The preparation of the list of speakers for the general debate shall be based on the following principles: (b) Member States shall be invited to indicate three preferences for speaking times; (c) Member States wishing to organize or participate in group meetings during the general debate period shall be encouraged to coordinate their responses to the request for preferences and to indicate this transparently in their responses; (d) The Secretariat shall be requested to prepare a list of speakers based on existing traditions and expressions of preference to best accommodate Members' needs; (e) The list of speakers for each day shall be completed and no speakers will be rolled over to the next day, notwithstanding the implications for hours of work.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The preparation of the list is based on the expressions of preference, traditions and internal criteria, e.g., written request by a Member State, level of the representation, previous speaker slot, gender balance, geographical diversity, etc.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
D.	**Provisions related to the conduct of business: time limits on speeches**			
59.	59/313, para. 10	Decides that time limits on speeches in the plenary Assembly and in the Main Committees shall be applied in accordance with rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	Member States, Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat, the President of the General Assembly and Member States, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
60.	51/241, annex, para. 22	Outside the general debate there shall be a 15-minute time limit in plenary meetings and in the Main Committees.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision to be applied by Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
61.	59/313, para. 13	Invites Member States that are aligned with statements already made by the chair of a group of Member States, where possible, to focus additional interventions that they make in their national capacity on points that have not already been adequately addressed in the statements of the group in question, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
E.	**Provisions related to modern technologies**			
62.	67/297, para. 20 *Also in:* 66/294, para. 15	Urges the Secretariat, in addition to its current practice of using e-mail, to use facsimile messages to disseminate important official letters and notifications to all Permanent Missions.	Secretariat	All important official communications are transmitted by e-mail and, where delivery is not successful, by fax.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
63.	67/297, para. 21 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 23; and 64/301, para. 19	Encourages Member States to make full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, taking into account the cost savings and the reduced environmental impact that may accrue from this exercise, in order to improve the quality and distribution of documents.	Member States	Ongoing provision. A simple and fast alternate way to access United Nations parliamentary documents electronically is available through the e-subscription service of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, available from http://undocs.org. Using Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds, the latest edition of the *Journal of the United Nations* and parliamentary documents issued daily at Headquarters can be accessed readily on a computer or handheld smart device. Sign-up is free and easy by visiting the e-subscription page at http://undocs.org. Further, the websites of the Main Committees and subsidiary bodies are regularly updated to facilitate rapid, easy access to pre-session, in-session and post-session documents of those bodies. In the Main Committees, delegations are also increasingly making use of the possibility of circulating their statements electronically through Main Committee websites, or Quickplaces, and reading out shorter remarks. In addition, some Main Committees are using these sites to post advance speakers lists and statements of programme budget implications, as well as national statements. At the request of Member States, a number of these sites have now been made operational year-round, rather than during the main part of the session only.
64.	66/294, para. 24 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 19; 64/301,	Decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall remain apprised of options for more time-effective, efficient and secure balloting, reiterating the need to ascertain the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of the	Secretariat, General Assembly (Ad Hoc Working Group)	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The Ad Hoc Working Group receives periodic updates from the Secretariat in case of any new technological developments.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	para. 21; 63/309, para. 9; 60/286, annex, para. 28; 59/313, para. 15; and 55/285, annex, para. 24 (a)	balloting process, and requests the Secretariat to submit an update in case of any new technological developments, on the understanding that the adoption of any new balloting system in the future will require a decision of the plenary of the General Assembly.		
65.	63/309, para. 7	Calls upon Member States to respond to the annual review of the Meetings and Publishing Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management on the distribution of printed documents to Missions, bearing in mind the cost savings, as well as the reduced environmental impact, which may accrue from this exercise, in order to improve the quality and distribution of those documents.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Member States have been responding favourably to the annual review of the Meetings and Publishing Division, resulting in decreased requests for hard copies of parliamentary documents and an increase in the number of requests for e-subscription to digital copies of documents.
66.	55/285, annex, para. 24 (b) and (c)	Taking into account the general support in this regard, the Secretary-General is requested to submit proposals to the General Assembly for its consideration: (b) Wiring of the main conference rooms at Headquarters to provide members of delegations and the Secretariat with access to the Official Document System and other databases of the Organization, as well as to the Internet, together with electronic access to texts of statements and reports and,	Secretary-General	Implemented. The Official Document System is now fully operational. Further, the PaperSmart portal provides electronic access to texts of statements of and reports to Member States and the Secretariat, as well as parliamentary documents in all official languages.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		in the case of reports, simultaneous access to texts in all official languages; (c) Other areas of the work of the Assembly in which the use of modern technology and information technology would contribute to enhancing efficiency in its working methods.		
67.	51/241, annex, para. 45	The Secretary-General is requested to pursue an information technology plan with a range of options to provide all permanent missions to the United Nations and the wider public with online access to documents and relevant United Nations information. Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, hard copies of documents shall continue to be distributed to permanent missions in accordance with their needs. While welcoming the progress made by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council, further efforts in this direction could be pursued within a specified time frame to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems. All countries, in particular developing countries, shall be assisted in making full use of this potential access. Adequate provision should be made for training delegates. Facilities for such access by delegations within the United Nations premises shall also be expanded as	Secretary-General	Implemented. The Official Document System has been fully operational and accessible. In addition to electronic means, hard copies continue to be distributed to Permanent Missions as requested. Further, a range of options including online access (in and beyond conference rooms), print-on-demand hard copies, knowledge management and video training is being implemented through PaperSmart. The PaperSmart team is also undertaking further studies and assessments.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		much as possible. Availability of information in this manner should be ensured in all official languages of the United Nations.		
68.	51/241, annex, para. 46	The Secretary-General is encouraged to include information on the impact of technological improvements in his report on the implementation of mandates, by means of comparing outputs with objectives.	Secretary-General	See comments for provisions 65 and 66 above. In addition, recording and assessment of indicators and outputs is currently being undertaken by the PaperSmart team.
F.	**Provisions related to documentation: resolutions (See also part I)**			
69.	66/294, para. 21 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 17	Encourages Member States, United Nations bodies and the Secretariat to continue to consult on the consolidation of documentation in order to avoid duplication of work, to exercise the fullest possible discipline in striving for concise resolutions, reports and other documentation, inter alia, by referring to previous documents rather than repeating actual content, and to focus on key themes.	Member States, Secretariat	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. This issue is frequently examined in a number of intergovernmental bodies.
G.	**Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports (See also part I)**			
70.	60/286, annex, para. 29 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 16; 58/316, annex, para. 6 (c); and 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 7	Requests the Secretary-General to implement further the measures set out in paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300 on the consolidation of reports and in paragraph 6 of the annex to resolution 58/316 on documentation.	Secretary-General	In response to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7). Since the adoption of this resolution, a number of reports, where appropriate, have been consolidated (A/61/483, p. 21, and A/62/608).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
				The Main Committees regularly examine the issue of consolidation of documentation, particularly when considering their working methods in the context of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
71.	59/313, para. 16 *Also in*: 58/316, annex, para. 6	In the light of its decision in section B, paragraph 7, of the annex to resolution 58/126 that the heavy volume of documentation that is submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration should be reduced, the Secretary-General is requested: (a) To update the note by the Secretariat, entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7) in the light of the provisions of the present resolution; (b) To submit the updated version of the note by the Secretariat for the consideration of the General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, so that it may make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.	Secretary-General	In response to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7). The note has not been updated, lacking the endorsement of Member States.
72.	55/285, annex, para. 16	In preparing the annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the secretariat of the Assembly, in consultation with the substantive departments of the Secretariat, should look for synergies and integration of reports.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions contains a paragraph on the need for possible integration of reports.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
H.	**Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports (See also part I)**			
73.	66/294, para. 21 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 18; and 49/221 B, para. 6 (c)	Calls upon Member States, United Nations bodies, and the Secretariat to observe existing submission deadlines so as to allow for the timely processing of documents to be examined by intergovernmental bodies.	Member States, Secretariat	Ongoing provision. In response to this request, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has entered into a compact with the Secretary-General which provides for zero tolerance of late submission of documents (A/61/483 and A/62/608).
74.	55/285, annex, para. 18	The Secretary-General is requested to make further suggestions as to how to speed up the preparation of reports and to rationalize the scheduling of meetings. The Secretary-General shall keep the President of the General Assembly and the General Committee informed on this issue on a regular basis throughout the sessions of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	The Secretary-General continues to make recommendations in his memorandums on organization of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (see the most recent one, A/BUR/68/1).
I.	**Provisions related to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (See also part I)**			
75.	51/241, annex, para. 4	The introduction to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be in the nature of an executive summary highlighting main issues.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented by the Secretariat. The introduction to the report on the work of the Organization is presented in the form of an executive summary highlighting the main issues.
76.	51/241, annex, para. 5 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The main body of the report shall be comprehensive, informative and analytical in a way that will allow Member States to examine and assess, inter alia, through the debate on the report, the extent to which mandates given by the General Assembly have been fulfilled, as well as to set priorities in the context of the major political, economic	Secretary-General	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		and social, administrative and financial issues on its agenda.		
77.	51/241, annex, para. 6 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The Secretary-General shall incorporate a forward-looking section in his report on the work of the Organization. It shall describe the specific goals for the Secretariat in the year ahead in the context of the work plan for the Organization in the coming year, taking into account the medium-term plan and the fact that the responsibility for establishing priorities rests with the Member States.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
78.	51/241, annex, para. 9 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall, inter alia, contain an analytical and concise annex elaborating the costs by major programmes and activities of all bodies of the United Nations system, located both in and outside New York, according to their mandates, so as to improve Member States' overview of system-wide issues.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
79.	51/241, annex, para. 3	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be available not later than 30 days prior to the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in all official languages of the Organization so as to permit due consideration.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. During the sixty-second session the report was not available within the deadline requested.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
80.	51/241, annex, para. 7	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.	Secretary-General/ Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on an ongoing basis. The report is considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.
81.	51/241, annex, para. 10	The Secretary-General is requested to introduce the report orally at an appropriate time under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General introduces his report orally under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".
J.	**Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly**			
82.	67/297, para. 15 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 18; 65/315, para. 14; 64/301, para. 18; and 63/309, para. 6	Reiterates its request that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the sixty-eighth session, in consultation with Member States, continue consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group.	Member States (General Assembly), Main Committees	Ongoing provision. Over the course of recent sessions, some Main Committees have indicated that they do not see the possibility for further clustering or elimination of items at this stage. Others have developed the practice of holding joint debates on items that have sub-items.
83.	58/316, annex, para. 2 (a) and (d)	(a) Pursuant to paragraph 4 of section B of the annex to resolution 58/126, the agenda of the General Assembly shall be organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period	Secretary-General, Member States (General Assembly)	One-time action. As from the fifty-ninth session, the agenda of the General Assembly has been organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and, subsequently, in accordance with the strategic

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		2002-2005 (or in the strategic framework, as appropriate), with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters"; (d) The provisions of the present section shall be reviewed by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session with a view to making further improvements, as appropriate.		framework for the period 2006-2007, with an additional heading I, entitled "Organizational, administrative and other matters" (A/61/483, p. 13, and A/62/608). During the sixty-first session no revision was made by the General Assembly.
84.	58/316, annex, para. 4	Provisions related to allocation of agenda items (for details see resolution 58/316, para. 4).	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions of this paragraph have been implemented as from the fifty-ninth session and reflected in the agenda of each session (A/62/608, and resolution 58/316, para. 4).
85.	55/285, annex, paras. 3-9	Provisions related to clustering of agenda items concerning cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.	Member States/ Secretary-General	One-time action. Provision implemented as requested and reflected in the agenda of each session.
86.	55/285, annex, paras. 10 and 11	Provisions related to biennialization of agenda items (for details see resolution 55/285, paras. 10 and 11).	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.
87.	55/285, annex, para. 12	The following item shall be considered by the Third Committee, starting at the fifty-sixth session: "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly".	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
88.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 4	With a view to better conceptualization of the content of the agenda of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Assembly, for its consideration by 1 March 2004, an illustrative agenda of the Assembly, based on all the agenda items of the fifty-eighth session, organized around the priorities of the Organization for the period 2002-2005. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the illustrative agenda before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	Secretary-General, General Committee	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Illustrative agenda of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.4), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session (A/61/483, p. 12). See also comments for provision 44 above.
89.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 5	The President of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and following consultations with concerned Member States, is requested to make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the Assembly for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the proposals before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	President of the General Assembly	One-time action. Subsequent to the adoption of resolution 58/126, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Analysis of the agenda of the General Assembly" which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
90.	55/285, annex, para. 2 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 24	The rationalization and streamlining of the agenda of the General Assembly should continue in order to enable the Assembly to focus its work on priority issues. Any change or suggestion concerning the agenda is made with the understanding that Member States may at any time propose any issue or item for the attention and consideration of the Assembly.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
91.	51/241, annex, para. 23	Bearing in mind rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the requirements for reopening debate on an agenda item which the Assembly had decided was completed will continue to be as at present and should be made clear to delegations through a statement from the President of the Assembly. A delegation wishing to reopen debate on an agenda item should send a written request to the President of the Assembly. The President will then undertake soundings to ascertain whether the request enjoys wide support. In the light of these soundings, the President shall announce in the *Journal of the United Nations* the date of the meeting of the Assembly to consider the question of reopening debate on the item, bearing in mind the requirements of rule 81.	Member States (General Assembly), President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. See also: rule 81.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
92.	51/241, annex, para. 25	As a general rule, agenda items that could be considered in the Main Committees shall be referred to the Main Committees rather than the General Assembly in plenary meetings.	General Assembly, Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
K.	**Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly (See also part I)**			
93.	67/297, para. 13 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 19; and 65/315, para. 15	Requests each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session, as appropriate.	Main Committees, Main Committee Chairs	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Briefings were provided to the Ad Hoc Working Group by Main Committee Chairs in the sixty-fifth, sixty-sixth, sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions.
94.	60/286, annex, para. 25 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 8	Requests the Main Committees to continue their efforts to further rationalize their agendas and to improve their working methods, and invites the bureaux of the Main Committees to enhance their cooperation, in conformity with the rules of procedure.	Main Committees	In response to the request, some of the Main Committees explored ways and possibilities of enhancing their cooperation. For instance, during the sixtieth and sixty-first sessions there were joint meetings of the bureaux of the Second and Third Committees.
95.	59/313, annex, para. 9	Requests the Chairpersons of the Main Committees, at the end of their terms of office, to provide a short report on their observations and "lessons learned" to their immediate successors.	Main Committees	Provision is implemented by Main Committees on an ongoing basis. The observations and "lessons learned" are presented during the informal meetings between incoming and outgoing bureaux of the respective committees.
96.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (a) *Also in*: 59/313, para. 7; and 51/241, annex, para. 26	Main Committees shall give specific attention to the rationalization of their future agendas by the biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items, and make recommendations to the plenary Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	Main Committees	In response to this request, the Main Committees at the fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions made recommendations to the Assembly.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
97.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (b) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 30	Main Committees shall adopt a provisional programme of work at the end of the session for the next session to help them better to plan, prepare and organize and, in this context, review the related documentation requirements.	Main Committees	Implemented as from the fifty-ninth session (information on the programme of work of the Fifth Committee is usually not available owing to the time frame of the Committee's work) (A/61/483, p. 14, and A/62/608).
98.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (c)	The practice of interactive debates and panel discussions shall be utilized or expanded, as appropriate, by all Main Committees so as to enhance informal, in-depth discussions and to bring together experts from various fields without prejudicing the progress of the substantive work of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision is being implemented on an ongoing basis. The Committees make extensive use of interactive debates and panels; for example, panel meetings are of particular importance for the work of the Second Committee.
99.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (d) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 53	The practice of "question time" shall be introduced, as appropriate, in all Main Committees to enable a dynamic and candid exchange with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General and special rapporteurs.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. As from the fifty-ninth session, Main Committees introduced the "question time", which has a significant importance for their work.
100.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (e)	The websites of the Main Committees shall be enhanced and thereafter regularly updated and their content maintained by the secretariats of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The websites of the Main Committees continue to be enhanced and regularly updated by the respective secretariats (A/61/483, p. 15, and A/62/608).
101.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (f)	The bureaux-elect of the Main Committees shall meet immediately after their election in order to discuss the organization and division of their work.	Main Committees	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as from the fifty-eighth session.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
102.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (g)	With a view to ensuring the continuity and the effective organization of their work, the incoming bureaux of the Main Committees shall, no later than two weeks after their election, meet with the outgoing bureaux in order to consult on and review issues relating to the efficient functioning of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Implemented by most of the Main Committees as from the fifty-eighth session.
103.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (h) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 30	Prior to the opening of each session, informal briefings of each Main Committee shall be convened to discuss the organization of work.	Main Committees	Implemented as from the fifty-ninth session.
104.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 8	The Main Committees of the General Assembly are bound by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, although they have different practices and working methods. With a view to identifying best practices and working methods, and recognizing the ongoing efforts of the Main Committees to streamline their work, the Secretary-General, drawing on the experience of previous Chairmen of the Main Committees, is requested to submit a historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the note before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	Secretary-General	In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees" (A/58/CRP.5), which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations (A/61/483, p. 13, and A/62/608).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
105.	51/241, annex, para. 51	There shall be a more detailed and structured examination in the Main Committees of the relevant reports of the Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Office of Internal Oversight Services in relation to the substantive work of these Committees.	Main Committees	The reports are examined in the Main Committees on an ad hoc basis, if necessary.
106.	51/241, annex, para. 31	The Main Committees shall meet in substantive session only after the end of the general debate.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
107.	51/241, annex, para. 36	The First Committee and the Fourth Committee shall not meet simultaneously and may consider meeting in a sequential manner during the regular session of the General Assembly. This arrangement shall not apply if it affects their respective identities, programmes of work and effective consideration of their agendas.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The secretaries of the First and Fourth Committees undertake consultation for the purpose of avoiding simultaneous meetings.
L. Provisions related to the General Committee (See also part I)				
108.	60/286, annex, para. 27 *Also in*: 58/316, annex, para. 5 (b)	Reiterates its call for the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	General Committee	Since the adoption of resolution 58/316, the General Committee has met throughout the session of the General Assembly.
109.	51/241, annex, para. 33	The General Committee shall use its authority and competence, taking into account rule 43 of the rules of procedure, by allowing Member States that are not represented on the General Committee to participate in its discussions. The process of decision-making will continue to be as at present.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
110.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (a)	The work of the General Committee shall be carried out in accordance with section VI of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
111.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (b)	The General Committee shall continue to meet throughout the session and to play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work.	General Committee	Since the adoption of resolution 58/316, the General Committee has met throughout the session of the General Assembly and played its leading role in advising the Assembly in the organization of its work.
112.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (c)	To ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the General Committee shall meet regularly throughout the session with the bureaux of the Main Committees to review the progress of the work of the Main Committees and to make recommendations for furthering such progress.	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision, the General Committee has met throughout the sessions of the General Assembly to ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure. Main Committee Chairs regularly briefed the General Committee on the work of their Committees.
113.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (d)	In July of each year, the General Committee shall conduct a review of the proposed programme of work for the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, and submit recommendations on the matter to the forthcoming Assembly. The report of the Secretary-General shall include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. In response to this request, the Secretary-General annually submits reports to the General Assembly, including the requested information on the status of documentation.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
114.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (f)	On the basis of proposals from the President of the General Assembly, and in the light of the positive experience during the fifty-eighth session, the General Committee shall be encouraged, as appropriate, to continue to schedule informal briefings on topical issues.	General Committee	At the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions, the General Committee held a number of informal briefings on topical issues. Owing to the rising number of thematic debates, the practice of informal briefings in the General Committee has been limited to avoid duplication.
115.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (h)	The General Committee shall continue to consider ways and means to further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects, and make recommendations on the matter to the General Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	General Committee	The General Committee continues to consider ways and means of improving its working methods. No recommendation has been made in that regard since the adoption of this provision.
116.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 1	The General Committee shall meet throughout the session and further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. It will play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work. In this connection, the Assembly will also consider proposals to reform the General Committee.	General Committee	The General Assembly, at its fifty-eighth session, adopted resolution 58/316, by which, inter alia, it decided on a number of measures with regard to the reform of the General Committee.
117.	55/285, annex, para. 20	In order to enhance the capacity of the General Committee to assist the President of the General Assembly in the conduct of the business of the Assembly and to improve continuity between its different sessions, at the outset of each session, each Vice-President	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		of the Assembly shall designate a liaison person for the duration of the session. This designation may be made informally, without any amendment to rule 39 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, by means of a letter to its President.		
118.	51/241, annex, para. 34	The General Committee may, each year, prior to the closure of the session, prepare suggestions based on its experience for the consideration of the incoming General Committee.	General Committee	Suggestions have been made on an ongoing basis during informal meetings between the incoming and outgoing General Committees.
119.	51/241, annex, para. 35	The General Committee is requested to consider and recommend to the General Assembly methods and procedures for streamlining and rationalizing the Committee's work. The General Committee shall, in this context, in relation to each agenda item proposed, consider its rejection or its inclusion in the provisional agenda, taking into account previous recommendations of the General Committee and previous relevant decisions of the Assembly.	General Committee	Provisions to be implemented by the General Committee.

Cluster III: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	General provision related to the selection of the Secretary-General (See part I)			
B.	**Provisions related to the selection process (See also part I)**			
120.	67/297, para. 23 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 25; 65/315, para. 20; and 64/301, para. 14	Reaffirms its commitment to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its consideration of the revitalization of the role of the General Assembly in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, and calls for the full implementation of all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11 (I) of 24 January 1946, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 60/286 of 8 September 2006, in particular paragraphs 17 to 22 of the annex thereto, and 64/301 of 13 September 2010.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Ad Hoc Working Group has devoted a thematic meeting in each of its recent sessions to this issue.
121.	66/294, para. 26 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 18; and 51/241, annex, paras. 56 and 59	Emphasizes, bearing in mind the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, the need for the process of selection of the Secretary-General to be inclusive of all Member States and made more transparent and that, in the course of the identification and appointment of the best candidate for the post of Secretary-General, due regard should be given to regional rotation and gender equality, and invites the Security Council to regularly update the General Assembly on the steps it has taken in this regard.	Member States (General Assembly, Security Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
C.	**Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term (See also part I)**			
122.	60/286, annex, para. 21 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 61	Recalls paragraph 61 of its resolution 51/241, in which it is stated that, in order to ensure a smooth and efficient transition, the Secretary-General should be appointed as early as possible, preferably no later than one month before the date on which the term of the incumbent expires.	General Assembly, Security Council	The provision is being implemented to the extent possible.

Cluster IV: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	**Provisions related to the competencies of the President of the General Assembly**			
123.	67/297, para. 27 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 29; 65/315, para. 24; 64/301, para. 13; and 63/309, para. 4	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travels.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
124.	67/297, para. 32 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 36; 65/315, para. 28; 64/301, para. 17; and 60/286, annex, para. 9	Requests the outgoing Presidents of the General Assembly to brief their successors on the lessons learned and best practices, and requests the Secretariat, in coordination with the Office of the President of the Assembly, to explore the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of past Presidents, from within existing resources, which could serve to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretariat, in coordination with the Office of the President of the Assembly, will explore the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of past Presidents, from within existing resources, which could serve to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office.
125.	58/126, annex, para. 7	In June of each year, the President-elect of the General Assembly, after taking into account the views provided by Member States and following consultations with the incumbent President and the Secretary-General, will suggest an issue, or issues, of global concern upon which Member States will be invited to comment during the general debate at the forthcoming session of the Assembly. The views provided by Member States	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		should also be summarized and circulated to Member States. Such suggestions regarding the issue(s) for comment will be without prejudice to the sovereign right of Member States to solely and entirely determine the content of their general debate statements.		
B.	**Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the President of the General Assembly (See also part I)**			
126.	67/297, para. 28 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 33; and 64/301, para. 12	Underlines the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard encourages Member States to contribute to the Fund.	Member States	Since the adoption of resolution 66/294, a number of contributions have been made to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly. Further, each incoming President of the Assembly is told about the Fund and encouraged to solicit contributions in order to keep the Member States seized of the matter.
127.	67/297, para. 30 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 34; and 65/315, para. 26	Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly on sources of the funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat.	Secretary-General	Pursuant to this provision, there was an oral briefing to the Ad Hoc Working Group during the sixty-eighth session. A briefing on the same subject was also provided to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions of the General Assembly.
128.	66/294, para. 35 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 27; and 64/301, para. 11	Requests the Secretary-General to further endeavour to ensure, within agreed resources, that the President of the General Assembly is provided with proper protocol and security services and adequate office space, with a	Secretary-General	The Department of Safety and Security continues to provide close protection coverage for the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management continues to provide

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		view to enabling the President of the Assembly to carry out his or her functions in a manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office.		protocol services to the Office of the President of the General Assembly. In addition, new office space has been made available to the Office in the renovated Secretariat building.
129.	67/297, paras. 31 and 32 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 36; 65/315, para. 28; 63/309, para. 5; and 60/286, annex, para. 9	Emphasizes the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility for coordinating the transition between Presidents, managing interactions between the President of the Assembly and the Secretary-General and the retention of institutional memory, and requests the outgoing Presidents of the Assembly to brief their successors on the lessons learned and best practices.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides technical, procedural and substantive support to the Office of the President of the General Assembly throughout the year and also briefs Presidents-elect and their teams on the work of the forthcoming session. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management is also the focal point for the institutional memory of the work and practices of the General Assembly.
130.	59/313, para. 3 (b)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (b) Augmenting the resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, subject to consideration by the Assembly of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, to provide for two further additional posts at management and senior levels to be filled on an annual basis following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the sixtieth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented as from the sixtieth session (A/61/483, p. 18).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
131.	58/126, annex, para. 10	The resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in personnel and other support shall be augmented from within existing resources, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 55/285. Five additional posts shall be made available to supplement current support, of which three shall be filled on an annual basis, following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented as from the fifty-ninth session (A/61/483, p. 11, and A/62/608).
132.	55/285, annex, para. 22 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 44	Additional measures are required to implement paragraph 44 of the annex to resolution 51/241, in particular in the area of substantive support for the President of the General Assembly. Therefore, adequate support should be made available to the office of the President in the substantive areas of its work. To this end, the Secretary-General is requested to take appropriate measures and to submit proposals to the relevant committees for their consideration during the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	This provision has been superseded by subsequent resolutions, including 58/126 and 59/313. The Ad Hoc Working Group has in recent sessions also received briefings on the range of support being provided to the President of the General Assembly and the Office of the President of the General Assembly. See also provisions 17, 31, 33 and 128 above.
133.	59/313, para. 3 (c)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (c) Making available to the President of the General Assembly adequate office and conference space with a view to enabling the President to carry out his/her functions in a	Secretary-General	As of the sixty-eighth session, new office space has been made available to the Office of the President in the renovated Secretariat building.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office.		
134.	60/286, annex, para. 11 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, para. 11	Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary arrangements for the provision of transitional office accommodation and other support to the President-elect of the General Assembly, in accordance with resolution 58/126.	Secretary-General	Beginning with the fifty-ninth session, transitional office space and other support have been provided to the President-elect (A/61/483, p. 11, and A/62/608, p. 6).
135.	59/313, para. 3 (d)	Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the President of the General Assembly is provided with proper protocol services at Headquarters and at other United Nations duty stations.	Secretary-General	Support by the Protocol Office to the Office of the President of the General Assembly has been further strengthened through closer coordination with the Office of the President where protocol services are necessary, including also the social events hosted by the President (A/61/483, p. 18, and A/62/608).